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Danny Vargas is buried at the Har Hamenuhot cemetery in Jerusalem yesterday. Story Page 2 (Israel Sun)

PA arrests two suspects in Vargas murder

By STEVE RODAN, MOHAMMED KALIF, and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Palestinian intelligence agencies, in the first test of their commitment to renew cooperation with Israel, have arrested two men who confessed to killing Danny Vargas in Hebron on Monday, a Palestinian official said yesterday.

An unidentified spokesman for Palestinian General Intelligence, said the men also confessed to killing yeshiva student Itamar Doron outside Moshav Ora earlier this month.

The spokesman said the two suspects, identified as Jamil Khalifa and Ismat Matawia, were captured in a joint investigation by the Palestinian General Intelligence of Tawfik Tirawi and the Gaza-based intelligence service of Amin Hindi.

PA sources said Khalifa, who recently moved to Hebron from Bethlehem, was captured late Monday in Hebron. He confessed to the killing Vargas and then implicated Matawia, a Hebron resident.

Later, both suspects confessed to also participating in the murder of Doron on October 13 at a spring outside Moshav Ora, the sources said. Ilan Mazon was seriously wounded in that shooting.

The sources said neither Khalifa nor Matawia is a member of a terrorist organization. The sources did not explain their motive.

"They denied any affiliation to any group and said they carried out the attacks on their own," Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, told Israel Radio.

Tibi said he hopes that Israeli security forces will display the same skill and speed in capturing whoever is responsible for the slaying of Mohammed Zalmout, a farmer from Beit Furik who was bludgeoned to death with a rock on Monday. He was found dead about 300 meters from the Jewish community of Itamar, east of Nablus.

Judea and Samaria police spokesman Opher Sivan refused to comment on reports that police are searching for a suspect affiliated with the Braslaver Hassidim. Sivan stated the suspect had worked at the Gideonim farm near Itamar, but was not a resident of the settlement.

Sivan refused to comment on reports that the suspect murdered Zalmout to avenge Doron's murder. He also stressed that the murders of Zalmout and of Vargas took place at approximately the same time, ruling out the possibility that Zalmout had been killed to avenge Vargas's murder.

Sivan said the same suspect was arrested by police last March after he interfered with attempts by a Magen David Adom crew to resuscitate an elderly Palestinian at the entrance to a Samaria settlement. The suspect refused to leave the site when asked by police, bit one of the policemen, and threw another into a thorn bush.

Palestinians in Nablus clashed with IDF troops during Zalmout's funeral yesterday afternoon. Palestinian sources said nine people were injured when soldiers used rubber bullets and tear gas against stone-throwers.

Clashes also were reported in Beit Furik, Awarta, and El-Khader. Three Palestinians were slightly injured in El-Khader.

The IDF, fearing an outbreak of violence, beefed up its presence in settlements throughout Judea and Samaria.

Elon Moreh was cut off in the morning when Palestinians, in response to Zalmout's murder, threw stones and firebombs at IDF troops. Settlers said two access roads leading to the settlement were blocked for some hours and soldiers fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse rioters.

In Hebron, the closure on the city and the curfew on Palestinians in its Israeli-controlled sector remained in effect.

PM's Office says

Wye on hold until PA produces security paper

By DANNA HARMAN

Israel will not begin implementing the Wye Agreement until the Palestinians present the promised — and completed — security working paper, officials at the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday.

The cabinet, therefore, will not meet to discuss the accord tomorrow, as had earlier been scheduled.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's spokesman Aviv Bushinsky said that there had been a verbal agreement that the full plan to combat terrorism be given by the Palestinians to the Americans within a week.

"We have found out that the Palestinians told the Americans they will not be able to do that. This is unacceptable. The cabinet cannot be asked to approve an unfinished plan," he said, adding that "as far as we are concerned, we will not be able to begin implementation of the agreement until it is completed."

The Americans seem mystified by this development. According to an American official, implementation of the agreement is to start, as planned, on Monday — 10 days after the signing and

regardless of when, or even if, the cabinet ratifies the deal. US special envoy Dennis Ross is scheduled to arrive in the region on Tuesday to oversee the start of the implementation "because he can count to 10," the official said. In the Wye Memorandum, it says only that the "work plan developed by the Palestinian side

signed the agreement... under the threat of the US president."

PA security chief Mohammed Dahlan, meanwhile, who is meant to be working on producing the security paper, is reportedly in Europe on private business.

In a statement released by Netanyahu last night, the prime minister said: "It has become apparent this evening that the Palestinians are not fulfilling their commitment in accordance with the schedule agreed upon. In light of this, the cabinet will convene to ratify the deal immediately after we receive the Palestinians' working plan against terror."

Observers noted that Netanyahu was perhaps looking for an excuse to defer the presentation of the agreement to give himself more time to shore up support for the deal.

Ironically, however, several ministers said they would use the extra time to further study the deal, find more loopholes, and try to get answers from Netanyahu on what they consider the most "murky details."

Foremost among these is the question of whether the Palestinians and the Israelis understand the phrase: "the

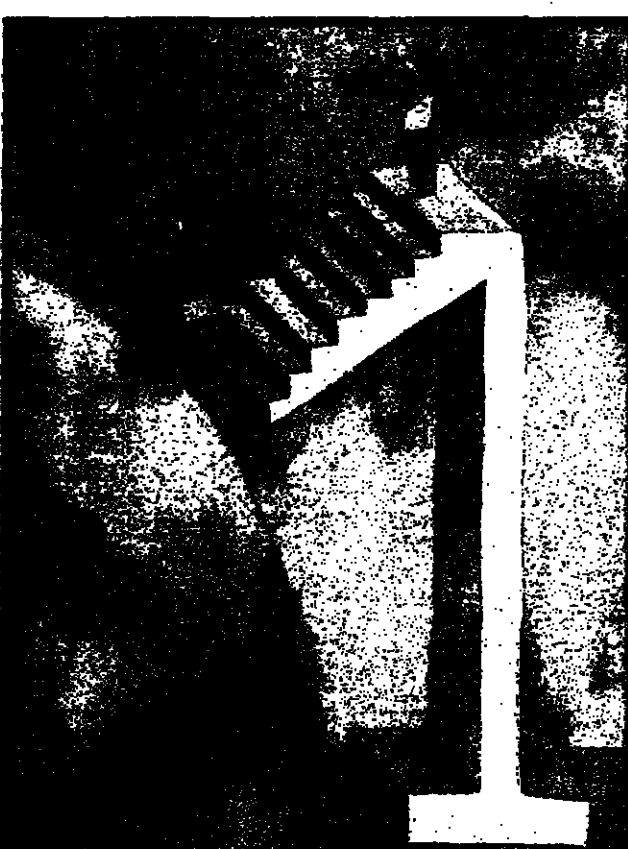
Palestinian Council will invite the members of the PNC (Palestinian National Council)... to a meeting," in the same way. It seems there is confusion on this vital point, with the Israelis saying the Palestinian Covenant will be legally changed by the PNC, and the Palestinians describing the gathering, in the words of Nabil Shaath speaking to reporters in Gaza, as a "popular demonstration of support for the peace process."

Today, Netanyahu is to meet with the Likud central committee and present the agreement, and although he will not have the security working paper, he will have the letter of American assurances which was made public yesterday.

The letter, signed by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, reaffirms the US "ironclad commitment to Israel's security and to peace," and pledges to work to make sure the Palestinians keep their side of the deal, especially when it comes to confiscating weapons, arresting wanted terrorists, and reducing the Palestinian Police force.

The Palestinians also have a letter of assurances from the Americans, which is expected to be made public today.

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Weizman warns of danger of incitement

By BAT SHEVA TSUR and LIAT COLLINS

Alarmed by the events of the past two days, law enforcement officials yesterday were examining the implications of the growing incitement against Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and the government. President Ezer Weizman, ministers, and politicians warned of the dangerous consequences such incitement could have.

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein announced that the State Attorney's Office would not

hesitate to charge those suspected of incitement.

The statements came following a right-wing demonstration against the Wye Memorandum outside the prime minister's residence on Monday night at which demonstrators described Netanyahu as "a traitor." Incendiary remarks also were heard yesterday at the funeral of terror victim Danny Vargas, where General Security Service agents mingled with the crowd, Channel 2 reported.

At the funeral, people in the crowd called out for revenge and there were calls for the government to be toppled — some saying "by any method it takes."

The GSS and the police have reportedly been on the alert for the past few days, as both the resentment and the political activities among diehard supporters of

the Greater Land of Israel movement increase.

"We must not repeat the terrible mistake of three years ago [when prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was slain]," Weizman said after emerging from a breakfast meeting with Netanyahu, who briefed him on the talks and the agreement.

"There are democratic ways of expressing opposition to the agreement," he added, and beseeched hotheads to restrain themselves.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who roundly condemned the epithets, called on all political leaders to "meet urgently to draw parliamentary and extra-parliamentary borders to the political debate."

See INCITEMENT, Page 5



PM adamant about honoring Wye deal

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday that he fully intends going ahead with the implementation of the Wye Plantation Agreement.

"The only thing that could prevent the agreement going ahead is if the government or Knesset does not approve it or alternatively if the Palestinians don't implement it," Netanyahu said. "But other than that, the agreement will be carried out."

Netanyahu was speaking to reporters following a meeting of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee before the announcement that the Cabinet discussion on the agreement had been

postponed because the Palestinian working plan on combating terror would not be ready within the week as scheduled.

Netanyahu said he had given the order to start work on preparing bypass roads in Judea and Samaria. All the roads leading to the settlements, including Road No. 60, will be under full Israeli control, he said. The road links all the settlements North and south with Jerusalem including Psagot, Ofra, Beit El, Yitzhar to Har Bracha and Gush Etzion and Hebron.

Calling the settlers, "my brothers and sisters," Netanyahu said, "no settlement will be harmed and no settlement will be an isolated Israeli enclave." He also repeated that the third further redeployment would not be more than one per-

cent.

Asked about Labor Party leader Ehud Barak's charge that the agreement had been deliberately sown with landmines in order that it blow up, Netanyahu said: "That's absurd. I think that the ability to have reciprocity and the fulfillment of Palestinian promises and commitments to fight terrorism is not a landmine; the commitment of the Palestinian Authority to annul the Covenant calling for Israel's destruction is not a landmine; the stopping of Palestinian incitement and educating Palestinian children to become suicide bombers, that's not a landmine. All these are the necessary prerequisites of peace. And indeed I am surprised that the leaders of the opposition can make

short shrift of those basic requirements which make peace meaningful and make it real."

He also repeated that the agreement calls for the entire Palestinian National Council to be convened to cancel the clauses in the Palestinian Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

Margot Dudkevitch adds: Sources in the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza yesterday charged Netanyahu of purposefully misleading government officials regarding the contents of the Wye Memorandum.

The sources said "the council cannot tolerate the disinformation campaign" that Netanyahu is presenting to the gov-

ernment officials, claiming that the prime minister was "selling" ministers and MKs one version of the agreement in order to hide the actual facts.

Spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar said that the council members will do all within their power to prevent the second redeployment from taking place.

She charged that Netanyahu has turned the security of Israel into the hands of the CIA. All the security issues mentioned in the memorandum have "no teeth," she said, adding that while Israel makes all the concessions, the Palestinian Authority will behave, but once the land is in their possession, no one will be able to ensure that there will be compliance on their part.

Vargas buried in Jerusalem

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The screams of Danny Vargas's widow pierced the air, mingling with the sobbing of the others at his funeral at Jerusalem's Har Hamenuhot cemetery yesterday.

Tali Vargas, blonde and pregnant, was supported by her mother and sister, her face covered in tears, at the sight of her husband's body she screamed out his name, again and again.

Nissan Peretz grew up with Danny in Jerusalem's Gilo neighborhood. When Danny moved to Kiryat Arba, he lost contact with him. "I was shocked when I heard what happened, I couldn't comprehend the attack," he said. Despite the Wye agreement, he said, attacks will continue, "so what if an agreement was signed, it is just words without meaning. The other side despises us."

Walking into the funeral home before setting out for the burial, someone called out: "We made an agreement with Hamas."

The first to eulogize Vargas was MK Rehavam Ze'evi (Mokedet): "Here lies Danny, who was murdered because he was a Jew; he was murdered because the IDF no longer controls the city of our forefathers; we gave the land to murderers."

He called on the government to provide security. "You promised security and peace yet we have neither."

"We want an end to the spilling of Jewish blood," said Ze'evi. "We came to the land of Israel to live not to die."

Members of the crowd called out "revenge" and "war." When some began calling Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a traitor, former MK Geula Cohen walked out.

When Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein got up to speak, members of the crowd jeered and called out to him: "You agreed to sign the agreement, go home!"

"I didn't know Danny personally," Edelstein said. "Now I won't be able to... the terrorists roam freely and you won't see their extradition," he said, adding as he looked toward Vargas's wife, mother, brother, and sister, "All I can do is strengthen you, no words can comfort you at this difficult hour."

Rabbi Moshe Levinger recalled how Danny was so devoted to the community and the children, how voluntarily he approached different institutions seeking money to provide the community's children with equipment. "I am no surprised to see so many young people here, the children you instructed," he said.

Toward the end of his eulogy, Levinger shouted: "The government always said the Palestinians cannot be relied upon, but now they have reversed their position and are abandoning our land and the Jewish people."

Slowly the crowd began the walk toward the grave site. Police stood along the route, a helicopter hovered overhead.

As Danny's body was lowered into the ground, screams filled the air, a mother's cry for the son she would no longer see, a wife's for the husband who would no longer stand beside her, and a community's to end the spilling of Jewish blood.

Netanyahu 'loath' to halt accord

By SARAH HONG

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would be reluctant to halt implementation of the Wye Agreement due to threats of an early election. But, if necessary, he will halt it, sources close to the premier told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

However, these same sources stressed that his reluctance now to make the move does not mean that he will not at some point be forced to do so. Netanyahu fears the consequences of such an announcement on Israel's relations with the US and the Arab world, following the lengthy and arduous negotiations last week.

Netanyahu is being counselled to link implementation of the agreement to the pending early elections bill. There is considerable trepidation being felt around Netanyahu that the bill will win a Knesset majority and that it will mean elections in early spring.

Thus, in effect, the Netanyahu government would be brought down despite opposition promises of a safety net to allow implementation of the Wye Agreement.

Shas leader Aryeh Deri yesterday labelled the opposition "duplicitous to an extreme. Despite all the political maneuverings I have witnessed over the years, I am yet to witness such brazen double dealing as that practiced by Labor since Netanyahu's return from America." Labor knows full well that an elections campaign will interfere with implementation. It talks high-mindedly about peace but carries a treacherous sword in its hand."

Deri said that to his mind Netanyahu ought to say that elections would "mean a freeze on the process. The elections would constitute a referendum. The nation will have its say. If and when Netanyahu will have the people's backing, he will forge ahead with implementation."

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi had similar advice for Netanyahu. He suggested that "the prime minister let the Americans and the Palestinians know that implementation would be suspended until after the elections. He needs to announce that all is frozen, while the election results are awaited. The nation has been asked to grant the prime minister a renewed mandate and till then all expectations must be put on hold."

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, however, judged that this "is disastrous advice and I hope Netanyahu will turn a deaf ear to such talk. He must evince the traits of a leader rather than a party politician."

A senior Labor party source told *The Post* last night that the idea of linking early elections to implementation of the Wye agreement has made Labor chairman Ehud Barak particularly apprehensive. Some in Labor charge that the notion actually came from none other than former Labor leader Shimon Peres. Barak sees it as a push for a national unity government, which he hotly opposes and which Peres ardently advocates.

Indeed, there was a growing demand inside the party yesterday not to reject the national unity notion out of hand and not to press ahead so forcefully with the early elections bill.

However, this did not translate into an announcement by any Labor MK to the effect that he will not vote for the bill when it comes up for first reading in the plenum, in two weeks.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav yesterday harshly criticized the Wye agreement, though he did not say how he will vote in the cabinet. He charged that "it's full of holes, mainly that there is no way of knowing what will happen after we complete the pullback."

"Arafat has not kept his word for five years and I can't see why we should suppose that he will reform in three months," Katsav said.



Palestinian victim buried

Mourning chant and wave flags as they carry the body of Mohammed Zakout from a mosque to the Nablus cemetery yesterday.

PA tries four officers over Ramallah raid

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Four members of Palestinian military intelligence were tried in a closed Jericho military court last night for their roles in raiding Fatah offices in Ramallah and arresting several activists.

The raid sparked a violent demonstration in which an 18-year-old, Wasim Tariq, was fatally shot. Palestinian officials said the trial lasted three hours and that the verdict would be announced today.

The four defendants were identified as First Lieutenant Mahmoud Haroun, Sergeant Mahmoud Walid, Sergeant Alla-Edin Nabulsi, and soldier Faisal Ali. The formal charges issued against them were "endangering the interests of the Palestinian people" and "violating national unity."

The announcement of the arrests and prosecution came hours after PA chairman Yasser Arafat ordered a separate investigation into the

killing of Tariq, the nephew of PA Civil Affairs Minister Jamil Tariq. The killing has sparked unrest in Ramallah and Fatah leaders have pledged to hold daily marches until Arafat acts.

A PA official said the investigation into the Tariq killing will continue. They said so far no suspects have been arrested.

Tariq is scheduled to be buried in Ramallah today, and Fatah has called for wide participation.

"The president ordered the urgent formation of a military court to find those who caused the incident," Tayeb Abdel-Rahim, general secretary of the presidency said in a statement published on front pages of three Gaza newspapers.

"He (Arafat) has appointed Brigadier-General Haj Ismail, commander of the northern counties of West Bank, to take all necessary steps as soon as possible," Abdel-Rahim said.

Fatah activists said Tariq was killed when military intelligence officers, pelted by stones,

fired into the crowd of hundreds of protesters during Sunday's demonstration. PA security sources said the accusation is baseless and that Fatah activists also fired their weapons — an assertion supported by eyewitnesses.

Fatah has succeeded in maintaining a commercial strike in Ramallah, which has spread to other West Bank towns. In Nablus, hundreds of Fatah activists gathered downtown and burned tires. Several marchers fired their weapons in the air.

In Ramallah, several hundred people marched yesterday afternoon toward PA headquarters and demanded the firing of Moussa Arafat and other senior military intelligence officials. They distributed a leaflet calling on the PA chairman to execute the person who shot and killed Tariq.

But a Fatah call for east Jerusalem shops to close was largely ignored. Israeli police arrested a Fatah activist who distributed leaflets calling for a commercial strike.

Coalition may turn budget into no-confidence vote

By DAVID ZEY HARRIS and NINA GILBERT

The coalition is considering turning the vote on the first reading of the 1999 state budget bill, scheduled for this afternoon, into a vote of confidence in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, coalition whip Meir Sheerit said last night.

The move is one of a number of possibilities that was being discussed by senior government members last night as it became increasingly likely there would be no majority for the bill.

Labor MKs were last night discussing providing a safety net for the government in the event that the decision on the first reading of the budget becomes a vote of confidence.

Labor's leadership maintains that

without the "confidence" label, the government will not have a majority for the budget. The Labor faction has said it will support the government for the time being to enable the implementation of the Wye Agreement signed with the Palestinians.

In presenting the 1999 state budget before the plenum yesterday, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman called on the Knesset not to turn the discussion on the bill into a political dispute over the Wye Agreement.

Sheerit, who does not want to face the embarrassment of a defeat, said "we can do all sorts of things, but we'll only make the decision just before [the vote at] 2 p.m. when we will have a better idea if we have a majority." Among the other possibilities, Sheerit said he may delay the vote until next week, however he said at this stage there is no plan to withdraw the bill.

Michael Kleiner (Geshet), who heads the Land of Israel Front, said as many as 10 coalition MKs will vote against the budget at the first reading, as a protest against the signing of the Wye accord.

"Personally I think this is a good budget, and under normal circumstances I would support it, but these are unusual times," said Kleiner. "While the Titanic is sinking the individual mechanics become less important." Among those likely to oppose the budget are Benny (Ze'ev) Begin (Likud), and Zvi Hendel and Hanan Porat of the NRP.

NRP's spokesman said last night

that the entire party would not support the budget today unless free childcare is given for four-year olds and the government cancels its plan to take away benefits from senior citizens.

At least two members of Yisrael Ba'aliya are threatening not to vote with the government unless they receive guarantees of improved housing conditions for poor tenants.

Two of the party's MKs, Michael Nudelman and Yuri Stern, said they cannot support the government given the present housing conditions, and were last night trying to persuade their faction colleagues not to support the budget bill until their demands are met.

Finance Committee Chairman Avraham Ravitz (UTJ) said the government may decide to delay the vote in order to buy time to enlist more support for the budget. By next week, a majority will be guaranteed, he said.

Earlier in the plenum, as Neeman began his speech he was repeatedly interrupted by Labor whip MK Elie Goldschmidt, who demanded that the finance minister relate to the demands of the striking students, saying it was fitting for him to first talk about crises facing the country before he refer to international economic turmoil. Goldschmidt was eventually removed from the plenum.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon left the plenum before Neeman began speaking in protest against his recent comments against MKs who rejected the government's request to freeze their salary

updates.

In his speech, Neeman called on the MKs to ensure the good of the public and put an emphasis on the good of the economy "at a time of international economic tension and while the economy is undergoing important changes."

"Don't turn [the budget] into subject into an issue of dispute in the Knesset over the Wye agreement signed last week," he said.

"The State of Israel will not be able to function beginning January 1, 1999 without a budget. This would cause serious damage to the economy and to its position in international financial community," Neeman emphasized the need to maintain a stable fiscal policy in the face of turmoil in financial markets around the world and in Israel. He warned that a failure to maintain the budget framework, which sets a budget deficit next year of 2 percent of GDP, could lead to economic ruin.

The 1999 budget is set at NIS

215 billion, and maintains social benefits at their 1998 level in real terms alongside a direct increase of NIS 1b. in infrastructure investment, Neeman noted.

Meanwhile, Labor MK Avraham Shohat said: "I have been looking around the building and I am beginning to realize there will be no vote tomorrow because the coalition simply doesn't have a majority."

Shohat, who served as finance minister under the Rabin government, responded to Neeman on behalf of the opposition, saying that the 1999 budget is the same as the 1998 budget, does not provide answers to the lack of economic growth, and will thus result in the same poor results for the economy.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Governor's visit.

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With deep sorrow we announce the passing of my beloved husband, our father and grandfather
ELI ROTHSCHILD ז"ל
 The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, October 28, 1998, at 12 noon at the Yarkon Cemetery, Trans-Samaria Road. We will meet at the main gate.
 His wife, Marianne
 Daughter, Gabriella and Michael Naftali
 Grandchildren, Ron and Orit, Jonathan, Amir Sisters, Judith Wollenberger and family
 Chava Goldschmidt and family
 Naomi and Sami Laufer and family
 Miriam Rothschild

The Jewish Agency for Israel
 The World Zionist Organization
 Deepest condolences to
Charles Goodman, Chairman of the Board of Governors, The Jewish Agency for Israel
 on the passing of his mother
MOLLIE GOODMAN
 Avraham Burg Chairman of the Executive
 Members of the Zionist Executive and the National Institutions
 Salim Meridor Treasurer

With great sorrow we announce the passing of our dear
MOSHE LOURIE
 son of Gershon ז"ל
 The funeral will take place today, Wednesday October 28, 8 Heshvan, at 3 p.m. at the Nahlat Yitzhak Cemetery. We will meet at the entrance.
 Shiva at the home of the deceased, 3 Rehov Sharett, Tel Aviv.
 Mourned by his wife, Magda and the Lourie and Stark families

سكرا من الامم



Residents of Ras el-Amud walk past a piece of construction equipment after Jerusalem police yesterday stopped building work on a fence around the Ateret Cohanim property in the neighborhood. (Brian Hendler)

Police again stop Ateret Cohanim from building in Ras el-Amud

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

For the second time in three days, Jerusalem police prevented construction crews from continuing work on a fence at the Ras el-Amud site belonging to Ateret Cohanim.

A barbed-wire fence was put up overnight across the eastern boundary of the plot. But when workmen tried to continue where they left off on Sunday, police moved in to stop them.

Work that was started Sunday to clear land for the 132 housing units scheduled to be built there was stopped after it was deemed a threat to public security. Police feared the construction would spark Arab rioting.

Motti Dan, head of Ateret Cohanim, said he had received all necessary permits to build.

"What we did is legal - completely," Dan said. "What's not legal here is what the police did. This is a country of laws, not a police state. What we're doing is what the law entitles us to do - the law allows us to put up a fence and a house, and God gives us arms [to work]. So if it's possible to bring in tractors, then we'll roll up our sleeves and start working, whenever we see it's suitable."

There are currently six students and two families living in the inhabited building on the site, next to the property where owner Dr. Irving Moskowitz plans to build a Jewish neighborhood.

"The Mount of Olives is a Jewish area," said Dan, referring to the neighborhood by its Jewish name, "where 150,000 Jews are buried. And thank God there are now Jews living here. The world hasn't gotten used to the idea of living Jews being on the Mount of Olives. It takes time - this kind of change takes time to digest."

He said that his group will again attempt to continue with their work, despite being stopped by police.

"There is a conflict now, and we are attempting to understand one another, but our tendency is to work with the police," Dan said. "And I believe that the police will in the end give its backing to this work."

SLA soldier killed in long-range mortar attack

By DAVID RUDGE

A South Lebanese Army soldier was killed and three residents of the security zone were wounded in long-range Hizbullah mortar attacks yesterday.

The soldier died when a mortar round exploded alongside the firing post he was manning in a SLA outpost in the Bint J'ail area, in the western sector of the zone.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the attack, saying its mortar crews had scored direct hits on the fortified position.

The organization, in a statement issued shortly after the incident, claimed that another SLA soldier in the outpost had been wounded, but there was no confirmation from other sources.

The mortar attack sparked heavy exchanges, with IDF gunners blasting suspected Hizbullah infiltration trails north of the zone.

Later, in the afternoon, Hizbullah gunmen launched another round of mortar attacks. In one of the attacks, a number

of shells hit a home in Ras Bayada village, near the coast, wounding three people and damaging the house, according to reports from the area.

The village is close to an IDF stronghold which houses a radar base and which has been targeted by Hizbullah gunmen on many occasions.

Senior security sources said the

hit on the village was a flagrant breach of the Grapes of Wrath understandings. Israel is expected to protest to the monitoring group over the incident.

The Grapes of Wrath monitoring group early yesterday concluded discussions into complaints by Israel and Lebanon over earlier violations of the understandings.

One of Israel's complaints related to an incident nearly two weeks ago in which three artillery shells fired by Hizbullah hit a Western Galilee moshav, causing some damage but no casualties.

The IDF Spokesman said the head of Lebanon's delegation admitted that the firing was deliberate.

The committee denounced the attack and determined that it was a deliberate violation of the understandings. It reiterated the need to take all necessary steps to prevent a recurrence.

The IDF Spokesman said that the Lebanese representative to the committee pledged to take steps to ensure that Hizbullah acts within the framework of the understandings.

The committee also acknowledged that Israel had been responsible for violating the understandings when shells, fired by SLA gunners during recent exchanges, hit three villages north of the zone, causing damage to property.

Islamic Jihad leader wounded by bomb

A leading Islamic Jihad official was critically wounded in Sidon yesterday when a bomb exploded in his car. His wife and four year-old son were also badly hurt.

Reports from Lebanon said that the bomb exploded when Abu Hamza Mazjoub started his car. The reports said a passerby was also wounded in the blast.

Another official of Islamic Jihad accused Israel of being responsible for the attack and vowed that the organization would take revenge.

Lebanese security sources, however, were quoted as saying that Palestinian militants were behind the attack, which follows a series of other incidents in the Sidon area. David Rudge

Navy head says Flotilla 13 has kept to a full operational schedule

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Terror groups in Lebanon still are trying to infiltrate Israel from the sea, but the navy has prevented this so far through sea patrols and commando raids, OC Navy Admiral Alex Tal said yesterday.

Speaking on the eve of Navy Day, Tal said that guerrilla groups in Lebanon have increased their alertness along their coast for Israeli raids and use night vision and radar.

He said that the navy has reinforced and added equipment to the land-based radar station at the Rotem outpost, which overlooks Tyre and has come under repeated guerrilla bombardment over the past year.

Speaking at the commando base south of Haifa, Tal said that Flotilla 13 was particularly active in Lebanon. Officers there said

that the unit was recovering from the trauma of losing 12 fighters in a botched commando raid last September in Lebanon. But Tal said that the highly motivated elite unit has been kept to a full schedule of activities and operations.

"Just last week they carried out a successful raid, but I won't elaborate on that," Tal revealed.

"I don't feel there was a need to carry out artificial operations in order to raise the spirit of the unit. The unit didn't need it," Tal said.

As Tal spoke to reporters, commandos on the base trained in the warm waters around the Crusader fortress of Atlit. The IDF kept reporters well away from the commandos. But when queried about the Ofir inquiry which investigated the botched raid, one diver said that despite the investi-

gation, no one really knows what happened and he accepted that.

Since that fateful night on September 4, 1997, when 11 naval commandos and a military doctor were killed by roadside bombs during a raid in south Lebanon, the number of volunteers to the unit has increased.

The navy is in the midst of a modernization plan. Its upgraded Sa'ar 5 corvettes are getting the last of its advanced electronic weapon systems installed and the navy expects to receive the first two of the three diesel-powered Dolphin-class submarines next summer. The subs and their crews are currently undergoing sea trials in Germany, where they were built.

Tal said that Syria, with its outdated and increasingly obsolete fleet, continues to be the navy's "Number 1 enemy." But, he

noted with deep concern, the Egyptian navy's great strides in closing, and in some cases even surpassing, the qualitative gap with Israel.

"The Egyptian navy is the dominant navy in this region," Tal said. "It has displayed a high level of readiness and capability and without a doubt this navy interests us and demands deployment by us in case, well just like the French and English are at peace yet each are building a fleet with their eye on their neighbor."

Egypt's western weaponry, like the Harpoon C anti-ship missile, is more advanced than that in the service of the Israeli Navy.

Regarding the Wye Memorandum, Tal said that within two months a protocol is to be drafted on how the future port of Gaza is to operate.

Mordechai, Levy to address rally marking Rabin's murder

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and MK David Levy (Geshet) will address the rally in commemoration of the third anniversary of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's murder, to be held in Rabin Square Saturday night.

Mordechai and Levy were asked to speak at the ceremony by Leah Rabin, who will also speak at the rally, as will Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, and Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni

Milo.

Mordechai asked the organizers to see to it the other speakers refrain from making political statements or attacking Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and not put political posters on the stage.

Sarid said no one had asked him to modify his speech and he intends to express his credo just as Mordechai will express his.

The commemoration will begin at Labor Party headquarters, 110 Rehov Hayarkon, where Rabin's

workroom has been restored and will open to the public from 6 p.m. on Saturday. A photograph exhibit entitled "landmarks on Yitzhak Rabin's way" and a children's drawing exhibition about Rabin's murder and his vision of peace will be displayed.

Thousands of memorial candles will be placed at the entrance to the building for the public, and visitors will also be able to sign a visitors' book. Leah Rabin, family members, and public figures will inaugurate the workroom.

Place of birth no longer has place on ID cards

Identity cards in the future will not list the place of birth of the holder. Yisrael Ba'aliya whip Roman Bronfman said this had been agreed upon with representatives of the Interior Ministry. He said the ministry will issue the regulation in two weeks and it will come into force for identity cards issued from next year.

Bronfman also initiated a law on the matter which recently passed preliminary reading. "In a modern society there is no reason for formally listing the place of birth. In order to avoid stigmas cast on different communities, it is fitting to abolish this and to leave in identity cards just those details necessary for identification," Bronfman said.

Ministry to ban transport of very hazardous materials

Environment Minister Rafael Eitan has agreed to a request to draw up regulations banning the transport through Israel of particularly hazardous materials. The request was made by MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz), who chairs the Knesset Economics Committee. Rubinstein said he is concerned Israel is being used as a "continental bridge" for hazardous materials and demanded hazardous materials such as explosives and radioactive materials be banned from entering the country, along with other sub-

AT THE KNESSET

stances which would require widespread evacuation of civilians in the event of an accident.

The committee yesterday also approved two bills restricting the publication of commercials for tobacco products.

One bill, proposed by Rubinstein, bans the use of photos of humans and animals or body parts in advertisements for tobacco products.

The other bill, by MK Tamar Gozansky (Hadash) bans commercials for tobacco products in printed material, at events and festivals, on computer programs and several other places where the main audience consists of children under age 18. This joins other publication restrictions on the commercials.

Cohen demands special foreign workers' courts

MK Yitzhak Cohen (Shas), the new chairman of the Knesset Committee on Foreign Workers, yesterday called for special courts to speed up the trial of employers of illegal foreign workers. He also called for stricter punishments for the employers.

Today the maximum punishment is a NIS 5,000 fine, which is

not a sufficient deterrent, Cohen said.

The director-general of the Employment Services, Moshe Dimri, said the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry could also revoke the business license of places employing illegal foreign workers and it intends on using this possibility.

Goldman: Increase fines for sand thefts

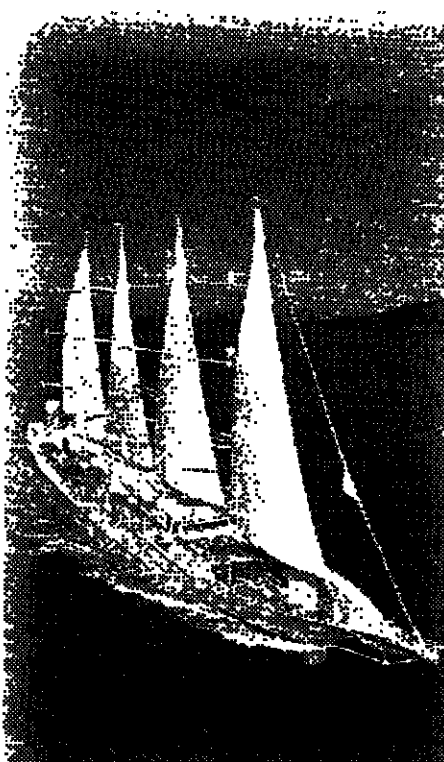
The Knesset Interior and Environment Committee yesterday discussed a problem which might not be headline news but which causes a severe environmental hazard: the theft of sand along the coast.

The sand is used in the construction industry.

Committee chairman Micha Goldman (Labor) called on the head of the Supreme Court to instruct judges to pass stricter sentences, noting that apart from harming the beaches, damage is caused to waterways, roads, nearby agricultural land and underground telephone lines and sewage systems.

Rehovot Police Chief Cmdr. Yitzhak Asraf showed the MKs a film demonstrating the difficulties of the police in catching thieves who tried to run them down and also endangered other drivers as they tried to escape. Asraf said the main problem with coping with the phenomenon is the light fines for offenders.

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THE JERUSALEM POST

NEWS

in brief

Sanctions continue at ministries

Sanctions that began last week in the Interior Ministry and Sunday at the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs continued yesterday.

Interior Ministry workers are demanding implementation of the agreement made with them last year, while staffers in the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry are protesting a decision to privatize the Institute for Work Productivity. According to Mati Greenberg, an official of the Government Employees Union, those who will manage the institute have committed themselves to retaining only 25 of its 65 employees.

Itim

Tiberias roadblock runner caught

After a long manhunt, Avi Zituni, of Kiryat Shmona, suspected of running a police roadblock in Tiberias during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visit three months ago, was found by police hiding out in a Safed apartment yesterday and was remanded for four days by the local magistrate's court.

Police had been given an exact description of Zituni, who is also suspected of armed robbery and of stabbing a woman, by his girlfriend. Police said he confessed to running the roadblock and retracted it for them. The Prime Minister's Office was informed of the arrest after police were sure Zituni had not been trying to harm Netanyahu.

Itim

Israeli ship rescues Colombian fisherman

An Israeli cargo ship en route from Panama to Los Angeles rescued four Colombian fishermen on Monday who had been stranded on their capsized boat for 12 days, Zim said yesterday. It said the fishermen, from the fishing boat *Nuva*, were all in good condition aboard the *Zim USA*.

"The captain enabled the skipper of the boat to notify home of the rescue," Zim said in a statement.

Jerusalem Post Staff

PM anticipates immigration wave

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday he expects a wave of immigration of up to 150,000 people from Russia and Ukraine during the coming year. He was speaking at a meeting of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee on Israel-Diaspora relations.

"There is a need not just to absorb immigrants but to encourage immigration," Netanyahu said, promising government funding for projects aimed at bringing Jews to live here. He added that all Jewish youths in the Diaspora should have an opportunity to spend time in Israel.

"I have no doubt we are facing a significant wave of immigrants

from Russia and Ukraine during the coming year," he said. It was the first appearance before the committee by a prime minister since Menachem Begin's tenure.

Netanyahu also called for a "change in mentality" from being a state receiving donations from abroad to one making contributions to Diaspora Jewry.

"I'm not relying on donations, we have passed that stage. We are one of the most developed countries in the world," he said.

After 50 years of statehood, Israel is strong, while Diaspora Jewry is weakening because of assimilation and intermarriage, he added.

He noted that for the first time the government has earmarked money to be spent on Jewish education in the Diaspora.

Attorney-general criticizes police handling of demonstrations

Students, police trade accusations

By LIAT COLLINS and Itim

Student leaders and police met at the Knesset Interior Committee yesterday, where the debate over recent student demonstrations was noisy and confrontational.

Police commanders accused students of deliberately inciting violence, in order to capture headlines.

Police Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk spoke of the legitimate right to demonstrate and freedom of expression, but said the students had ignored that there is a need to obtain permits for demonstrations. He said that on several occasions permits were granted after the demonstrations had started.

Wilk said the police had learned that the students were trying to bring the country to a standstill by blocking major roads, among other actions. The police reacted with force only when students tried to block main roads and seriously disturb the peace, he said.

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein was quoted last night as saying that police need to maintain law and order "in a suitable fashion." But, according to Justice Ministry officials, he also reminded the students that they live in a state where law and order are maintained and that they had demonstrated in some cases without a license. The remarks were made after a meeting with senior police officers.

Wilk complained of attempts to attribute political motives to the police handling of the demonstrations and took issue with suggestions they had acted more leniently during settler protests. The presence of MKs at illegal demonstrations granted the protests legitimacy, he said.

Later, thousands of students took part in a legal demonstration for lower tuition outside the Knesset in the Rose Garden, while



Thousands of students from universities and colleges across the country demand lower tuition and better conditions at a protest in the Rose Garden by the Knesset yesterday.

almost 1,000 police stood by. Jerusalem Police Chief Commander Yair Yitzhaki told the committee a new norm had been created under which the concerns of those who have a confrontation with the police have their issues placed on the Knesset's agenda.

Lior Rotbart, chairman of the National Students Union, said police had arrested students without cause on university campuses. He accused the police of trying to break the student leadership and said no student had attacked police.

Committee Chairman Micha

Goldman (Labor) called on both sides to act according to the law: for the police to act humanely when it comes to arrests, and for the students to take into account police considerations in trying to preserve the peace.

MK Salah Tarif (Labor), chairman of the sub-committee on internal security, said it is urgent that new regulations be drawn up concerning police methods of dispersing demonstrations.

Tsomet whip Eliezer Zandberg, who is scheduled to become deputy education minister next week, also called on the police to

draw up new priorities. "Instead of fining drivers who hoot their car horns in support of the student struggle, the police should make an effort to arrest those calling the prime minister a traitor and inciting to murder," he said.

The students also had a meeting with Likud MKs. Likud faction head Meir Sheerit said afterwards that he hopes to host a meeting today between Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and student leaders in an effort to bring the dispute to an end.

Student leaders met with

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday to complain that police took unnecessary measures against student protesters. They presented Kahalani with photographs of police taking inappropriate actions at demonstrations.

Meanwhile, the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court charged student leaders Michael Dahari, Yehzekel Shirin and Tomer Eshel yesterday with promoting an illegal assembly and interfering with police.

David Zev Harris and BatSheva Tsur contributed to this report.

Levy meets with US deputy secretary of education

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The US and Israel hope to sign a cooperation agreement on education in early 1999 allowing for joint conferences and meetings, joint research programs and the sharing of information on a series of issues of interest to both nations, US Deputy Secretary of Education Prof. Marshall S. Smith said yesterday after meeting with Education Minister Yitzhak Levy.

Smith, in Israel as a guest of the Mandel School of Professional Leadership, which was established to revitalize education here and throughout the Jewish communities around the world, said that he and Levy discussed, among other things, early education as well as the situation at the two countries' colleges and universities.

"I didn't presume to suggest anything [regarding the current Israeli student strike], but I did talk about how education is funded in the United States, both in private and public institutions, and the use of loans and grants," Smith said.

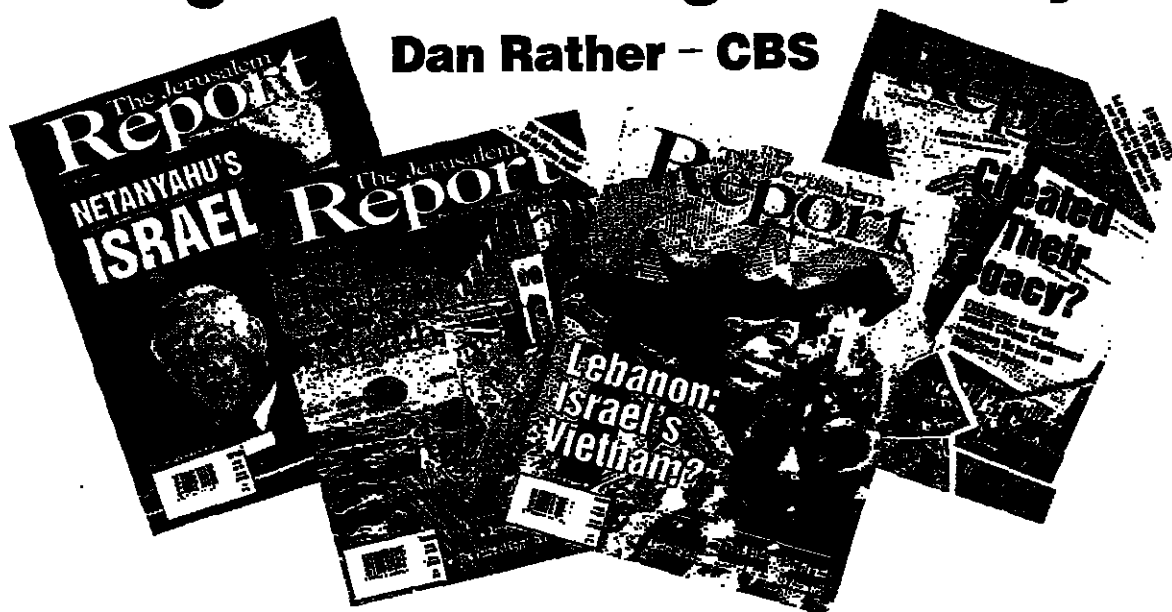
He said both countries can help each other "by bringing their respective perspectives to

bear on common problems. We all have problems of equality of services delivered to different kinds of children, problems with how best to serve children who don't speak the language of our countries, in all of those areas... there are different traditions and strategies used in the two countries, and we need to talk about those and think about different ways we can get both of our nations to improve."

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Riding for the handicapped

'Jerusalem Post' staffer Jon Immanuel passes near Kfar Sava yesterday, on his way from Ceshar Haziv to Eilat as part of the seven-day Israel Challenge Bike Ride. He is raising money for handicapped children at the Alyn Institute here and at Ravenswood in England. (Ilan Ossendyver/Jerusalem Post)

Meretz signs deal with Huldai

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Meretz's mayoral candidate in Tel Aviv stepped down from the race yesterday after signing a coalition agreement with the city's leading candidate for mayor, Ron Huldai (Labor).

Michael Ro'eh, whose decision to withdraw was prompted by polls predicting he would get only 3.5 percent of the votes in the approaching municipal elections, promised to support Huldai, who agreed to include Meretz in the municipal executive after being elected.

"Huldai is a fair accompani. It was

a hard step for me to take, I expected better feedback after all I've put into the race," Ro'eh said at a press conference yesterday.

Huldai and Meretz's list vowed to preserve Tel Aviv's free, tolerant and open character, cultivate green areas and change the building trends in the city.

The poll conducted recently by Modjin Ezrahi indicates Huldai stands to win by a sweeping majority of 59% and will need no second round. Former Likud candidate Doron Rubin will get 17% and actor Shmuel Vilosny will receive a surprising 14.5%.

Dan Darin, who was Meretz's

candidate in Tel Aviv's last municipal election and is running independently this time, will receive only 3%, while Yehudit Arad, another independent candidate, will get 1.4%, according to the poll.

The poll indicates Huldai's list, Tel Aviv 1, will get eight mandates, the Likud's two mandates, Rubin's four mandates, Meretz three mandates, Dor Shalom one mandate, and the Greens one mandate. Vilosny's list will get four mandates, the poll says. Shas is estimated at three to four mandates, while the National Religious Party and Dan Darin's list will not get enough votes for a single council seat.

صكرا من الامم

שכר מן האכל

4 Jordanian soldiers buried in Nebi Samwil ceremony

By SHI DAVID



Jordanian soldiers carry the bodies of four of their comrades, who fell in the Six Day War, to their final resting place at Nebi Samwil yesterday.

(Brian Heidler)

Panel to decide on new drug basket this year

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry committee charged with deciding what new medications and technologies will be included in the basket of health services will present its recommendations by the end of the year, its chairman, ministry associate director-general Dr. Boaz Lev, said yesterday.

The Treasury has granted the Health Ministry NIS 150 million a year for covering the costs of new drugs and technologies added to the basket that all health funds must supply members.

Lev appeared before the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women, which held a special session on National Osteoporosis Day to discuss the need to include Fosalan (known abroad as Fosamax) in the basket. Fosalan has been proven highly effective in rebuilding bone mass in women suffering from osteoporosis.

Studies have shown that restoring bone mass in middle-aged and elderly women saves the health system much money, as it reduces the risk of hip and other bone fractures, cutting the need for surgery, rehabilitation, and nursing care. About a quarter of women who break a hip die of complications within the first year.

"It's unthinkable that effective treatment for osteoporosis will be available only to the rich," committee chairman Marina Solodkin said. The cost of treatment is about NIS 250 a month, which is beyond the means of many pensioners.

Dr. David Zacharovich, of the Israel Family Physicians' Association, said that 40 percent of the 500,000 women over 60 will develop osteoporosis. The risks can be reduced by not smoking, a diet high in calcium, and regular high-impact exercise, such as walking and working out with special elastic strips.

The remains of four Jordanian soldiers killed during the Six Day War were given a full military burial by the Jordanian armed forces at Nebi Samwil, just outside of Jerusalem, yesterday.

The funeral, which took place a day after the fourth anniversary of the peace accord between the two countries, was attended by more than 130 Jordanian officers and soldiers, dozens of legislators, and the families and fellow villagers of the soldiers.

Israel was represented by senior IDF officers and other VIPs, including Ambassador to Jordan Oded Eran.

"We are honoring their wish," said Eran before the ceremony. "They were Jordanian soldiers and this is what their families wanted."

Jordanian and IDF experts identified two of the soldiers as Ali Ahmed Shbul, of Irbid, and Bassam Jamil Baghdadi, a Palestinian from Nablus. The other two soldiers have not been identified. The remains of all four were found in nearby Givat Ze'ev during archeological excavations three years ago.

The funeral began at about noon, when a Jordanian military band passed between two columns of Jordanian soldiers in full uniform. Jordanian soldiers carrying the four coffins, the legislators, the soldiers' families, and friends followed the band.

Brief prayers were held in Samuel's Tomb, and once finished, the band led the procession to the Muslim burial site to the tomb's right. There, the pall bearers put the coffins down, removed and folded the Jordanian flags and presented them to the families. A Jordanian officer accepted the flags of the unidentified soldiers.

"I feel proud that we have a martyr buried in the soil of Jerusalem — the wish of every Palestinian," Baghdadi's cousin Zahi Baghdadi told Reuters.

Then each coffin was lifted, taken through the gates in front of

the burial site and lowered into the single grave where the four will rest.

After three six-gun salutes, speeches were made outside the burial site by Jordanian dignitaries.

"We are honoring today the memory of four of the martyrs of the Arab Hashemite army who fell in the defense of the soil of Jerusalem," said Maj.-Gen. Mohammed Melkawi, the ranking

Jordanian officer present. "They are part of a galaxy of martyrs of the Arab army, more than 750, who gave their lives and souls in defense of Palestine and Jerusalem."

Brig.-Gen. Danny Arditi said the ceremony, which took a month and a half of difficult planning, demonstrated the excellent relations between the IDF and the Jordanian forces.

"The ties between the Jordanian army and the IDF are peaceful and we see the cooperation between us in this ceremony, which was complicated because we didn't know what it involved," he said.

Israel's oldest leopard dies

By LIAT COLLINS

What do you do with a dead leopard? This is the question which confronted the Nature Protection and National Parks Authority this week following the death of Babta, a 25-year-old who had been using the Yotvata Hai Bar reserve as a sort of retirement home for old cats.

The answer is rather than being stuffed, Babta has posthumously donated her body to science.

"First we carried out an autopsy," said NPNPA chief veterinarian Ronnie King. "After that the skin and bones and other parts will be preserved separately and we will keep some of the tissues for genetic fingerprinting so that we can match up the leopards here with other leopards elsewhere. For example, we will be able to see in the future whether the leopards in Israel are related to those of Saudi Arabia."

Babta was the oldest known leopard in Israel and was considered to have reached a very good age for a leopard in captivity. She was caught at the end of the 1970s at the Ein Gedi Reserve after nearby kibbutz members complained she was eating their pet cats and dogs and was a threat to human lives.

Her capture marked the first concrete proof that there are leopards in the Judean Desert. The exact number of leopards there now is not known, but King says it is "probably less than a handful."

At the time these objects were made — between the 10th and 11th century — Tiberias was a thriving Islamic capital with a mixed Muslim, Jewish, and Christian population.

Hirschfeld believes the store owner was Christian because crosses, coins and medallions bearing Islamic inscriptions were among the objects found. "Why he needed to hide his treasure remains a mystery," Hirschfeld said.

The objects will eventually be displayed at Hebrew University and the Israel Museum. (AP)

Shalom moves ahead with bid to strengthen Science Ministry

By JUDY SIEGEL

Science Minister Silvan Shalom expects "all hell to break loose" in other ministries when he presents a bill to concentrate authority for science matters in his own ministry.

A precedent for this was the establishment of the Ministry of National Infrastructure, set up especially for Ariel Sharon, which integrated functions of other ministries under a single roof.

Speaking yesterday before the Knesset Science and Technology Committee, Shalom said that despite the opposition that his proposal will trigger, "there's a need for a strong ministry with more power to create strong science and technology infrastructures."

"The Science Ministry's budget must be increased so it can support research with a potential to bring about economic growth and create

new jobs," he said.

Shalom received his ministerial chair a few months ago in rotation from MK Michael Eitan, who is now deputy minister in the prime minister's office. Upon assuming his post, he said he intended to increase the powers of his ministry.

The Science Ministry is the ministry with the lowest budget and smallest number of staffers. Shalom declined to detail the state bodies from which he would transfer powers for fear of prompting opposition among their ministers and staffers.

Shalom says he wants to prioritize investing in Internet II, a faster alternative for science professionals to the popularly used computer network. Plans call for his ministry to spend \$10 million a year on it during the next four years.

The ministry also wants to promote space R&D and stimulate

public — and especially young people's — interest in science.

An effort will be made during the coming year to increase the number of researchers among Arabs, Druse and Circassians, Shalom said. A program will encourage graduates from these groups to complete doctorates and train them for working in R&D centers. Some NIS 1.5 million will be allocated to finance scholarships.

Eitan had tried, unsuccessfully, to close down the Science Ministry and replace it with a national council for research and development, arousing animosity among scientists and his own staff.

Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Michael Nudelman, who chairs the Science and Technology Committee, said it would work jointly with the ministry to increase the state budget for scientific R&D to 3% of the gross domestic product.

INCITEMENT

Continued from Page 1

The political events are starting to resemble more and more those which preceded Rabin's assassination. Only a united front... will prevent history from repeating itself in so tragic a fashion."

Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel met in the evening with Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk and senior police officers to assess the situation. Rubinstein instructed the police to take all necessary action against suspected inciters. Every case has to be weighed on its own merits, he added.

Earlier Rubinstein had warned that the situation could easily deteriorate.

"Violent words," he said, "could easily turn into deeds... The bitter experience of the State of Israel — it is close to the third anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin of blessed memory — forces us to be extraordinarily careful... lest cries of 'traitor' turn into violent acts."

The country's law-enforcers will follow events closely, he said, and when necessary invoke the law "while maintaining the right balance between freedom of expression and the potential for violence."

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani told Channel 2 there have been threats on the life of Netanyahu and other public figures. He did not elaborate.

Surrounded by a huge security detail, Netanyahu said he thinks only a "very, very small minority"

of people would consider violence as a reaction to the Wye agreement.

Netanyahu said calls of traitor "were improper then [against Rabin] and are improper now. In general, those who are pained and concerned about the prospect of withdrawing from any land — and I'm one of them — I think those who voice their concern and opposition are doing it out of genuine concern in their hearts."

"I think no leader of any nation should start calculating his personal security as a factor in whether to carry out a certain policy, otherwise... you get locked into situations of paralysis and can't move. I've seen countries which were tormented by the fear of terror and gangs and a kind of blackmail which has caused them to descend to the abyss. This is not going to happen here."

Knesset Law Committee chairman Hanan Porat (National Religious Party) called on religious leaders to denounce incitement and make clear what the limits are.

"I think that people who don't know how to draw red lines and don't know what can and cannot be said could bring a disaster on us all. The main problem is not legislation, although there might be room for amendments in the law on incitement; the main problem is with the public leadership and [the need] for a firm educational stand."

"I want to call on my friends in the national camp who rightly are hurting about the failure and deception of the prime minister, and tell them and the rabbinic and religious leadership that I expect some active

statement, along with the protests and opposition, to make perfectly clear what are the red lines which should not be crossed. And, of course."

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon opened yesterday's session with a call for tolerance and non-violence. "The black warning of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin has not been removed. The murder was a warning written on the wall in blood that we cannot forget it," he said.

Coalition whip Meir Sheerit published an open condemnation of those who called the prime minister a traitor.

"The vast majority of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza settlers are disgusted by and reject these miserable and crass calls," he said.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid sent a letter to Netanyahu saying, "As a veteran, experienced, and well-known 'traitor,' I was chilled to hear the calls of traitor now turned on you. I personally have already got used to them, but on November 4, 1995 [the day of Rabin's assassination], I vowed I would never get used to a prime minister of Israel being called a traitor."

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai severely denounced the growing incitement.

"This incitement must be totally condemned. It is inconceivable that a Jew and an Israeli can make these threats against the prime minister and elected officials," he said in Ashdod following a memorial service for fallen soldiers.

Avigdor Kahalani and Margot Dudkevitch contributed to this report.



A decorative jug found among 500-600 objects that were stashed away by a merchant near Tiberias about 1,000 years ago. Their discovery last week by a Hebrew University team marks the largest find from the Islamic period ever made in Israel.

Treasures from Islamic era unearthed

Hebrew University archaeologist Yizhar Hirschfeld announced yesterday the discovery of the largest collection of objects from the Islamic period ever found in Israel.

The objects were found at a site just south of Tiberias in jars stashed away by a merchant 1,000 years ago.

Between 500 and 600 metallic objects, including decorative jugs, pots, bowls and bells, were discovered in three large clay jars, two of which were hidden beneath the shopkeeper's floor near Lake Kinneret.

"It's [an] incredible treasure from around the year 1,000, a period from which we don't have

many pieces, especially metal, so it's unique in every sense," said Hirschfeld, who oversaw the dig with Oren Gutfield, a graduate student, on behalf of the university's Institute for Archaeology.

Workers found the first container in the corner of what they believe to be an ancient store floor last Thursday then discovered the others after digging through the floor Monday.

Several bowls ingrained with ancient Kufic Arabic script, a large candelabra, and snake and bird figurines were among the items found. "The amount, beauty and quality of the artistic work is incredible," Hirschfeld said.

The find will help archaeologists

to better understand trade relations and artistic expression of the era, he added.

At the time these objects were made — between the 10th and 11th century — Tiberias was a thriving Islamic capital with a mixed Muslim, Jewish, and Christian population.

Hirschfeld believes the store owner was Christian because crosses, coins and medallions bearing Islamic inscriptions were among the objects found.

"Why he needed to hide his treasure remains a mystery," Hirschfeld said.

The objects will eventually be displayed at Hebrew University and the Israel Museum. (AP)

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Thank you, Helmut

In January 1996, then prime minister Shimon Peres flew to Munich for a ceremony to award Chancellor Helmut Kohl the Bnai Brith President's Medal for Humanitarianism. It was in recognition of his dedication to good German-Israeli relations during his long tenure.

This week President Roman Herzog awarded him the Grand Cross at the end of that 16-year run during which it became hard to imagine a modern Germany without Kohl. He was the first chancellor since Konrad Adenauer to be so honored. President Clinton intends to honor him with the highest American civil honor, the Medal of Freedom.

Nowhere in this crabby modern world has any voice been heard criticizing any honor for Helmut Kohl.

Since he is a big man, media pundits have long loved clichés like "larger than life" to describe Kohl. However, while standing in the chilly square opposite the Munich Rathaus last month listening to Kohl ramble on for almost two hours, it seemed to me that he has been smaller than life, and none the worse for it.

Provincial boy

The last thing Germany needed during this 16 years was a recklessly flamboyant leader, and it was lucky enough to get Kohl — a chancellor who knew how to mold the country to unfolding events rather than initiating troublesome upheavals.

Unity chancellor, statesman, architect of the European Union — all the honorary titles are deserved, yet Kohl himself has remained an oddly provincial figure, often seeming lost in the high Sierras of international policy making. Unification or not, he is a Bonn chancellor at heart, rather than a Berlin one.

Kohl has been a leader who responded more to personal chemistry than to any ideology or partisan borderlines — very much like the late British Labor prime minister Harold Wilson, who once claimed to be bored by socialist dogma. The conservative Kohl enjoyed the company of the socialist French president, Francois Mitterrand, and the receding Communists Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin, far more than that of the spiky Margaret Thatcher. No Iron Chancellor he, under the beady glare of the Iron Lady.

Hand in hand

Kohl is not a touchy-feely man by any stretch of the imagination, yet his holding hands with Jacques Chirac at a memorial ceremony in France for the dead of World War II will probably survive as one of the most moving images of his time in power, and the most powerful symbol of his passionate belief in the union of Europe as well as of Germany.

It was the unification of Germany that won Kohl his

spurs as a great statesman; and it is for that he would like history to remember him.

It is by no means certain that history will oblige, for Gorbachev has some claim to be responsible for the "Sinatra Doctrine" (do it their own way) that replaced the Brezhnev Doctrine (they'll do it my way).

Kohl's contribution was in getting it done rather than dragging it out, but there are plenty of people East and West who are severely critical of his haste. Others dismiss Kohl's claim to have unified Germany in terms similar to Jerry Seinfeld disparaging the man who discovered the Mississippi: "Yeah, like it wouldn't have happened anyway!"

But in Israel, few would deny this was an honorable man. On the eve of unification, he sternly reminded East Germans that crimes of hatred, such as neo-Nazi propaganda and denying the Holocaust, are punishable by law in West Germany. "To my mind, there is no doubt that these provisions will also apply in a united Germany," he said.

Uncle Helmut

He added that it was time the world took serious note that Germany 1990 was not Germany 1945. "Does everyone realize, for example, that the Federal Republic of Germany has for decades maintained particularly close and good relations with the State of Israel? For years it has been the only one of the [then 12] members of the European community to stand up actively and without restriction for Israel's interests as regards its existence, freedom and security?"

Kohl did not take personal credit for that, but he deserves the bulk of it. It is not his fault that Israel's foreign office has been too dense, too American-obsessed, to take full advantage of Kohl's vigorous and untiring support for closer ties between the European Union and Israel. In the midst of reunification turmoil, the brief neo-Nazi revival, sniping from other EU countries, and Scud attacks, Jews and Israelis could feel safe in the great shadow of Uncle Helmut, regardless of the scares and frictions from not-so-comforting German skinheads and greedy companies arming Saddam.

Germans too have felt the same about him, even if they have now decided he has left the nation safe and confident enough to move on to the Berlin republic and the next millennium.

The party of the new Chancellor Schroeder campaigned under one slogan, which said "Thank you Helmut, but it's time to go." It is one of the kinder opposition slogans we have heard in the harsh world of politics. Now he is gone indeed, but the "Thank you" lingers on, loud and clear, from everyone, everywhere.

Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

Ready for blastoff

John Glenn is back at Cocoa Beach, and 300,000 visitors are expected to cheer on the septuagenarian as he heads back to the heavens

By MIKE CLARY

Perhaps Cocoa Beach locals have become a bit blasé about the industry that turned their sleepy seaside Florida town into a bustling Space Age resort. After all, more than 90 manned shuttle missions have blasted off from nearby Kennedy Space Center since 1981, and rockets go up with thunderous regularity.

"Normally for a shuttle launch, you could get a hotel room or a spot in the park to watch it," said Rob Varley, executive director of the Space Coast office of tourism.

Not this week. When 77-year-old Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, and six fellow astronauts head for the heavens aboard the shuttle Discovery Thursday, the roar will come from both igniting rocket fuel and the cheers of as many as 300,000 visitors — including President Clinton.

The crowd is expected to be the largest since the 1969 Apollo moon mission, a testament to the excitement generated by the launch that will return to space a genuine American hero.

In 1962, Glenn was the first American to orbit the Earth. Aboard Discovery for a nine-day scientific mission, he will become the oldest person ever in space.

The launch will be broadcast live worldwide and covered by as many as 2,500 journalists watching from the media gallery a mile from the launch pad. CNN has even lured Walter Cronkite, a friend of Glenn's, out of retirement to help with its coverage.

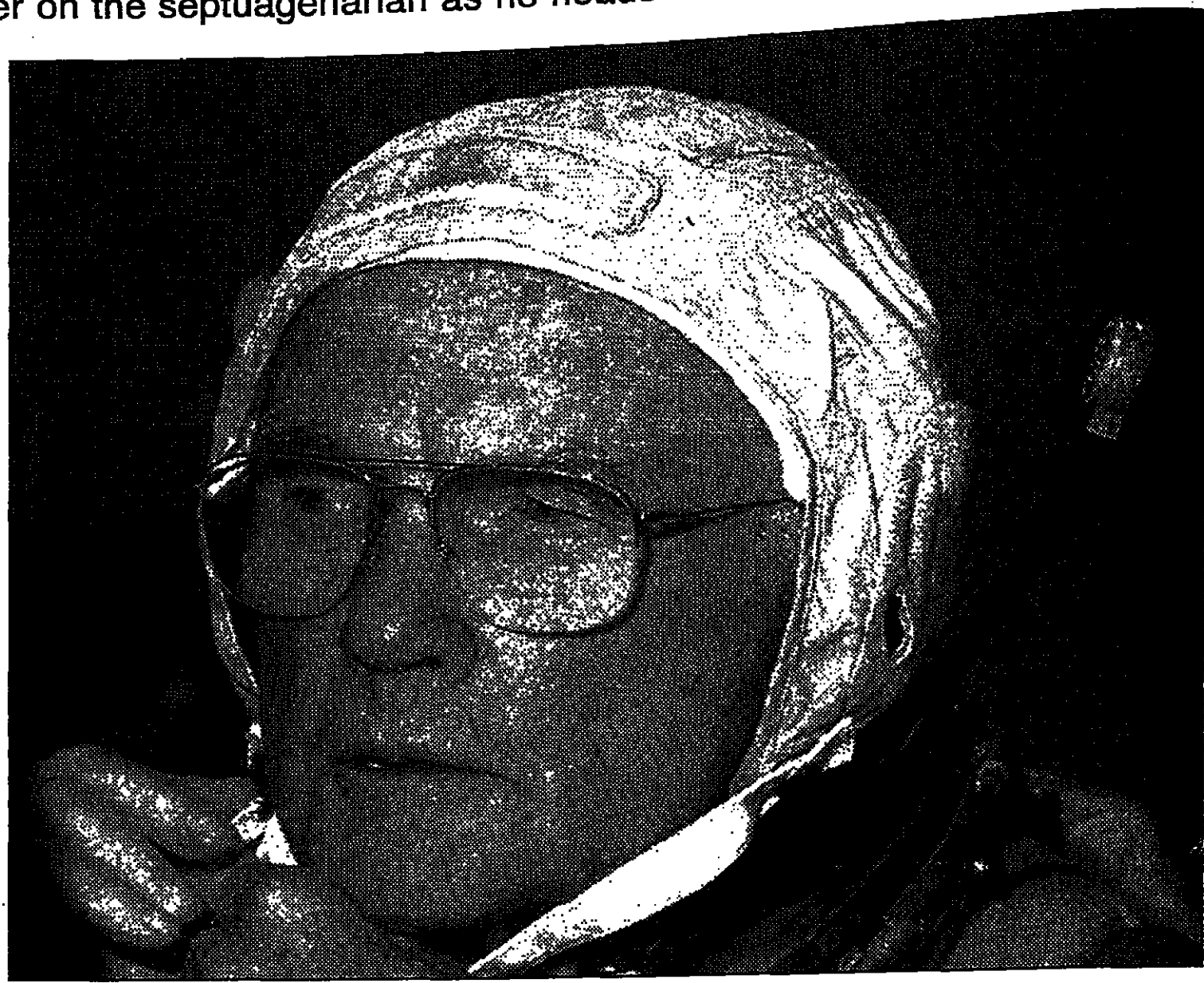
INTENSE interest in the launch, scheduled for 2 p.m. EST, is an economic windfall to Cocoa Beach and Brevard County, where all 10,000 hotel rooms have been sold out for months. Even the best viewing spots are gone, with 10,000 people having paid \$20 each for tickets to enter Space View Park, along the Indian River.

"We figure the economic impact at something like \$20 million," Varley said. "That's pretty hot for us."

County school administrators have given students the option of skipping classes Thursday, fearing massive traffic jams will lead to gridlock on the two-lane roads and causeways leading to Kennedy Space Center. Many schools will dismiss students early, and supplies of drinking water are being loaded onto school buses in case students are trapped on the roads.

"There will be serious, serious traffic problems," warned Jay Cullen, a spokesman for the nearby Titusville police.

Glenn's return to space has given a boost to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which hopes the enthusiasm will translate into support for the ambitious, \$50 billion international space station. The joint US-Russian project is to get under way Nov. 20, when a Russian rocket will carry the first portion of the space station into orbit.



John Glenn preparing for a training session in August: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration hopes the enthusiasm sparked by Glenn's return to space will translate into support for the ambitious, \$50 billion international space station. (AP)

For a man who has been a US Marine Corps fighter pilot, a test pilot, one of the original seven Mercury astronauts, a successful businessman and, for 24 years, a US senator, Glenn's designation as a "payload specialist" aboard Discovery seems like one of the

and symmetry of seeing Glenn fired back into orbit at an age when many contemporaries are long retired.

"It's like a homecoming, or reunion," said Cocoa Beach Mayor Joe Morgan, who was among residents who welcomed Glenn to town in 1960. "We're just delighted to see John Glenn here again."

His return also serves as an occasion to reminisce about the days when space loomed as the next frontier and America was losing the race with the Soviet Union.

"It was a heady time," recalled Rachel Mochle, a public relations officer for the Cocoa Beach area Chamber of Commerce. "Sputnik had gone up (in 1957), and America was under the gun."

After the Soviets then beat the United States with the first manned space shot, President Kennedy vowed to put a man on the moon. And almost overnight, it seemed, Cocoa Beach was awash in NASA engineers, German rocket scientists, contractors and laborers.

This always has been the other Florida, the Florida not of Miami Beach and high-rise hotels but the Florida of scrub pine pastures and wide-open beaches. In his book *The Right Stuff*, Tom Wolfe called this area "so Low Rent that nothing on Earth could ever change it."

'It's like a homecoming, or a reunion. We're just delighted to see John Glenn here again'

— Cocoa Beach Mayor Joe Morgan

less prestigious of his job titles.

Critics have suggested his inclusion on the flight is more politics and public relations than science — he is to be a guinea pig for several experiments on aging.

But his mission has captured the world's fancy. Longtime residents of what is called the Space Coast especially seem to appreciate the romance

But with Glenn and the other six original Mercury astronauts in residence, the area did begin to change. In the years before Glenn made his first trip into space aboard the Friendship 7, this quiet one-motel town looked less like a retirement haven than the site of a

the buffets were free and everybody bought drinks for everyone else," said Tom Daugherty, who worked the bar at the Ramada Inn. "And if you needed money, you could write a personal check on a napkin."

'We figure the economic impact at something like \$20 million'

— Rob Varley, executive director of the Space Coast office of tourism

round-the-clock fraternity bash.

"Party, party, party — it really was," said Mabel Gressett, who worked at Ramone's restaurant and catered meals for the Mercury astronauts. "It was a wild time, because everybody was on expense account."

Indeed, parties were the movable feasts in those days, fueled by alcohol, smoked mullet and the belief that America was on the cusp of a new age, the Space Age. "You could travel around here without any money at all, because

TODAY, the population of Cocoa Beach peaks at 25,000 in winter, and it looks like many other small beachfront cities: busy with hotels, restaurants, surf shops and T-shirt emporiums. It is certainly a more sophisticated place than 36 years ago, when the Ramada Inn was the only motel in town.

But some things remain the same. At the age of 88, for example, Gressett has another catering job, this time for Dan Rather and the CBS news crew. She's making shrimp Creole one day and serving prime rib another.

And Morgan once again feels like a part of history. "This is an exciting time for us," said the 62-year-old mayor, a retired banker. "You know, when you live here, and rockets go off all the time, sometimes you're not as attentive as you should be."

"But with John Glenn back, this is phenomenal. We have a lot of people here his age, and they identify with him."

"He's brought the world to our doorstep again." (Los Angeles Times)

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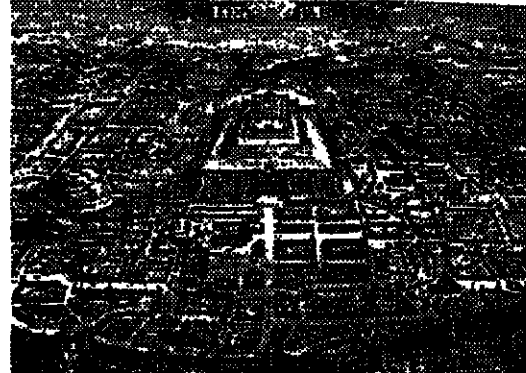
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Serb forces back off in Kosovo

By MARK HEINRICH

BELGRADE (Reuters) — Thousands of ethnic Albanian refugees streamed back to wrecked homes in Kosovo yesterday after Serbian security forces withdrew en masse to beat an evening deadline set by NATO.

But in one central town, large numbers of refugees who had returned after daybreak scattered when heavily armed military police suddenly reappeared. It was not clear why they had returned to Malisevo or how long they would stay.

NATO ambassadors were due to meet yesterday evening at the alliance's Brussels headquarters to assess the extent of Yugoslav compliance. If it is judged sufficient, NATO's threat of immediate punitive air strikes would be lifted.

Ethnic Albanian refugees, meanwhile, reassured by the sudden departure of thousands of military police who had shelled them out of their homes in a campaign against separatist guerrillas, started to flood back to homes in central Kosovo.

Many were venturing back for the first time in three or more months and most found their homes pillaged and vandalized, if not demolished by the police.

But the festive atmosphere that bloomed as refugees flooded back into Malisevo swiftly dissipated when five armed personnel carriers of the military police arrived with heavily armed troops.

More than 20 police in camouflage combat gear with automatic weapons secured the building that had served as the local police station for three months.

As they arrived, automatic



An ethnic Albanian family returns on a tractor to its home in Ostrozug, 35 km. southwest of Pristina, yesterday.

(AP)

weapons fire could be heard in the center of town and refugees who had returned to reclaim their homes scattered to the outskirts of the main business district.

To the north of Malisevo, about a dozen separatist Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) guerrillas had been watching traffic from a roadside cove to assess whether the police withdrawal had been sufficient for

civilians to return safely.

"If they take no action, we won't take any either. But it is a provocation for them to be in Malisevo," a KLA commander told Reuters. "There are a lot of people who want to go home and they can't so long as the police are around."

Officials at the Kosovo Diplomatic Observers Mission (KDOM) headquarters were

unaware of the Malisevo incident and one told Reuters it would be looked into.

KDOM said more than 4,000 Serbian police withdrew overnight from Kosovo. Official Yugoslav media said some police would still guard main roads. But checkpoints had vanished along major roads travelled by Western reporters yesterday.

More Yugoslav army armored units moved back to garrisons in southern Kosovo yesterday morning, KDOM sources said. "We've seen more checkpoints dismantled today and have reports of further police drawdowns," a KDOM official said.

"We don't have a single negative report today," he said, before being told about the Malisevo incident.

Schroeder sworn in as German chancellor

By ROBERT MAHONEY

BONN (Reuters) — Gerhard Schroeder, promising to push through reforms in spite of global economic turmoil, was sworn in as German chancellor yesterday, a month after defeating Helmut Kohl at the polls.

He took the oath of office in the lower house of parliament, the Bundestag, ushering in Germany's first center-left government in 16 years. His wife, Doris Schroeder-Koepf, watched from the public gallery.

"The global economy is not in a satisfactory state and it will cause us more problems in future," Schroeder said after receiving his letters of appointment from President Roman Herzog. "But at the same time, we will have the courage to be decisive and carry out the reforms we have called for."

Schroeder governs with a 21-seat majority in the 669-member house with his Social Democrats (SPD) in coalition for the first time with the ecologist Greens.

The Bundestag voted 351 to 287 formally to hand the helm of the world's third biggest economy to the man whose drive for the center ground of German politics has

earned him comparisons with US President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Schroeder, 54, inherits a country with four million unemployed, sluggish economic growth, and an increasingly unaffordable welfare state.

He said Germany is an "unusually strong country with people of outstanding ability. Above all [the new government] intends to harness the creative forces in Germany to awaken them and to ensure that everyone realizes that performance is the basis for success," Schroeder added.

"I've reached my professional goal," he told journalists after the vote. "What was important for me was that the coalition voted together."

Schroeder has made jobs his top priority, but his plan for cutting unemployment through a permanent forum of government, employers, and trade unions has been criticized by many economists as inadequate to tackle Germany's structural problems.

The task of revitalizing the economy falls to Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine, who also holds the key post of SPD chairman.

Schroeder has spent much of the



Gerhard Schroeder (AP)

time since his general election victory denying media speculation that Lafontaine will be the real power in the government.

Lafontaine, who lost to Kohl in the 1990 federal election, has laid out a Keynesian demand-management philosophy for boosting employment, in contrast to Schroeder, who has the reputation of being a pragmatist with no fixed economic ideology.

Schroeder exploited public weariness with Kohl's conservatives, appealing to the "new center" like Blair and his New Labor. But unlike Blair, Schroeder does not control his party, which remains in Lafontaine's hands.

Yeltsin checks into sanitarium for open-ended stay

MOSCOW (AP) — An infirm Boris Yeltsin sought sanctuary yesterday at a rest home outside Moscow, retreating further from the political spotlight and leaving the country guessing about the exact nature of his illness.

The Russian leader, who has been an infrequent visitor to the Kremlin in recent months, checked into the Barvikha sanitarium for an open-ended stay to recover from what's been described as high blood pressure and exhaustion.

Yeltsin has played only a marginal role in dealing with the country's painful economic crisis, and some analysts say the country is being guided mostly by Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who has been in office less than two months.

"Ever since he was appointed, Primakov has been acting more as a president than as a chairman of the government," said Nikolai Petrov, a political analyst with the Carnegie Endowment for Peace in Moscow.

Primakov traveled to Vienna, Austria, yesterday to fill in for Yeltsin at a summit between Russia

and the European Union.

Yeltsin called off the trip Monday due to his illness, the latest in a string of maladies that have dogged him for years.

Primakov and Yeltsin met early yesterday at the president's Gorky-9 country residence outside Moscow before the prime minister left for Vienna and Yeltsin moved to the sanitarium.

Russian television broadcast pictures of Yeltsin sitting in a chair behind a small table and talking to Primakov. Yeltsin was not visibly ill. He nodded in response to Primakov's comments, but their words were not broadcast.

The president and his doctors say Yeltsin has no crippling illness and will serve out his term which lasts until the middle of the year 2000. Still, few people in Russia believe that Yeltsin, 67, will ever again be the robust, reform-minded leader that he was during his early years in power.

Yeltsin has rarely put in full days at the Kremlin since the spring, spending most of his time at country residences west of the city.

WORLD

in brief

Davies resigns from UK cabinet after robbery

LONDON (Reuters) — Welsh Secretary Ron Davies has resigned from the government, Prime Minister Tony Blair's official spokesman said yesterday.

In a letter to Blair, Davies said he had made "a serious lapse of judgment" on Monday night when he went for a walk in a London park, was approached by a man he did not know and agreed to go to the stranger's flat for a meal. Shortly afterwards, the man produced a knife and, together with a male companion, robbed Davies and stole his car. Davies is the first cabinet member to resign since Blair came to power in May 1997. In an interview with BBC television, Davies said he had resigned promptly to minimize potential embarrassment for the government after what he called a "gross misjudgment." He said police are investigating the incident but refused repeatedly to give any details of it.

Hurricane Mitch roars off Honduran coast

LA CEIBA, Honduras (AP) — Honduras braced for potential catastrophe yesterday as Hurricane Mitch roared through the northwest Caribbean, churning up high waves and intense rain that sent coastal residents fleeing for safer ground. President Carlos Flores Facusse declared a state of maximum alert and the Honduran military sent planes to pluck residents from their homes on islands near the coast. The US National Weather Service in Miami said Mitch could weaken somewhat, but warned it would still remain "a very dangerous hurricane capable of causing catastrophic damage."

De Klerk postpones bid to block report

CAPE TOWN (Reuters) — Former South African President F.W. de Klerk yesterday shelved for a day his bid to secure a court order to block the Truth and Reconciliation Commission from linking him to apartheid-era violence. De Klerk's spokesman David Steward said that lawyers for South Africa's last white president had agreed to allow the truth commission more time to prepare their case.

The commission is due tomorrow to present President Nelson Mandela with its final report, the outcome of an emotional two-year inquiry into the apartheid era. It could recommend further legal action against key figures. The president's ruling African National Congress and other anti-apartheid parties will also be accused of human rights violations, state-owned radio said.

EU voices support of Russian reforms

VIENNA (AP) — Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov received promises of European Union support yesterday for his government's reform efforts, but no new financial commitments to bolster the country's devastated economy. Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima said he hoped the second tranche of a \$10.2 billion credit line from the International Monetary Fund can be transmitted as soon as Russia submits an economic reform program.

China detains democracy activists in crackdown

BEIJING (AP) — Police detained one of China's most prominent democracy activists and other dissidents yesterday in an effort to thwart a planned cross-country trip to protest the harassment of a fellow activist. Police took Xu Wenli from his Beijing home yesterday, questioned him about his planned trip to eastern Shandong province and released him about 10 hours later, Xu said.

They also searched Xu's home, confiscating a fax machine, papers, magazines and photos, and detained Xu's associate, Zhang Hui. There was no immediate word on whether Zhang was also released.

Xu's wife, He Xintong, said the detentions demonstrated that authorities have no intention of relaxing their grip despite China's October 5 signing of a UN human rights treaty, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Turkey asks Moscow to extradite Kurdish rebel

ANKARA (AP) — Turkey has asked Russia to extradite a Kurdish rebel leader wanted on charges of heading a terrorist organization, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Abdullah Ocalan leads the banned Kurdish Workers Party, or PKK, which has been fighting for Kurdish autonomy in Turkey since 1984. The conflict has killed about 37,000. Ocalan's whereabouts are unclear. Turkey says he recently left Syria for Russia. But in Moscow, the Interfax news agency said Monday that the Federal Security Service has not confirmed Ocalan's presence in Russia.

Pinochet's legal problems intensify

LONDON (Reuters) — Augusto Pinochet's legal troubles intensified yesterday as judicial authorities and Chilean exiles around Europe pursued efforts to have him face murder and human rights charges.

Lawyers in Britain said the former Chilean dictator is unlikely to be freed immediately to fly back to Santiago, even if Britain's High Court rules today that extradition requests by Spain are unlawful.

They said the court would almost certainly order that Pinochet, 82, remain under guard in Britain until an appeal against its ruling could be heard by Britain's highest court of appeal, the House of Lords.

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Capitalist realities come home to roost in Russia

By SHARON LAPRANIERE

The white brick building where Valentina Savina works is silent and dark, abandoned except for her office at the end of a long corridor of closed doors and dusty nameplates.

A bare light bulb dangles above the building's front door, its cable strung through the window. There is no heat, and soon, Savina fears, there will be no electricity, either.

Her building was once the hub of the Velyaminovskaya chicken factory, where 600 workers processed 200 tons of chicken meat a month from a half-million birds.

But the last chicken was killed two years ago, and only a small egg farm remains. Now, in the nearby city of Bryansk, stores sell out of locally produced chicken almost as soon as they get it, and there is no more to be had.

"What happened?" Savina wondered aloud, sitting at her desk in her threadbare blue coat one afternoon two weeks ago. "What happened to the country?"

The ruin of Velyaminovskaya is the story of Russia's potholed road to capitalism.

Left by the wayside are hundreds of factories like Velyaminovskaya that could not adapt to the free-market forces unleashed in 1991.

Just eight years ago, Russia pro-

duced three times as much chicken as it does now.

Much the same is true for most other products, from sugar to soap, shirts to shoes, refrigerators to razors. Overall production has declined by half since 1990.

No one expected the transition to capitalism to be painless after 80 years of government-controlled industry. But more and more Russians are asking why, after most of a decade, the only results are ruined factories and why a country that once fed, clothed and outfitted itself is now at the mercy of foreign suppliers.

The question is particularly compelling now, because the exporters who were all too happy to flood the country with goods when the ruble was stable canceled shipments en masse when Russia hit the financial skids this summer.

Those who continue to ship products have jacked up prices far beyond what most Russians can afford. For instance, imported chicken - fully two-thirds of the market - has doubled in price at Moscow grocery stores.

Why so few Russian factories managed to survive a free market is an intricate question.

One group of free-market economists says the government left too much of the old system in place, including collective farms

and the old communist factory managers. They also blame the government for allowing criminal rackets to flourish and failing to revise a punitive tax structure.

Factories suffered most from "useless managers," said Anders Aslund, an expert on the Russian economy with the Carnegie Endowment.

"They were not sufficiently beaten over the head. They just sat on their hands, hoping for subsidies. They had no economic sense at all. They just demanded money."

Another group of economists argues that the reforms were too harsh and the government should have controlled how enterprises were privatized, rather than engage in "shock therapy."

Leonid Abalkin, director of economics for the Russian Academy of Sciences, said the state sold off its factories before there was a source of capital to modernize them or even a good idea of what they were worth and who wanted to buy them.

Among some Russians, dismay over the wreckage of factories is coupled with a suspicion that their country is a victim of a cruel hoax and that the West led Russia down the free-market path to reduce it to a mere supplier of raw materials.

THE Soviet Union began building chicken factories in 1964. In typi-

cally grand Soviet style, it designed them as small towns, complete with kindergartens, workers' apartments, even swimming pools. And, like towns, they used hot water boilers as a source of heat, instead of the cheaper gas generators that European factories used to heat hen houses.

They were clustered around major cities, without regard to climate, to provide jobs.

Two such factories sprang up in Bryansk, renowned for its potatoes and for the partisans who fought the Germans in World War II from the surrounding pine forests. One factory, Snezhka, survived the advent of capitalism. The other, Velyaminovskaya, is now little more than a small egg farm.

Savina began work at the Velyaminovskaya factory at the age of 18. She is still there as the head accountant, filling out papers on the small income from eggs and crops.

Yuri Ozernik, a veterinarian whom the Communist Party installed as factory director in the 1980s, said the plant ran well with the government as its supplier.

But when the state lifted price controls and privatized the plant in 1991, he said, the facility went haywire.

The price of a kilo of chicken feed jumped from 12 kopeks - about one-eighth of a ruble - to 2,500

rubles. Fuel costs increased anywhere from 13,000- to 30,000-fold.

The plant's managers raised the price of their chicken products, as well, but could not charge as much as it cost to produce them without losing their customers, especially now that the market was open to cheaper, imported chicken.

Ozernik said he proposed that Velyaminovskaya abandon chicken production altogether and just raise cows.

"But no one would listen to me," he said.

Savina, on the other hand, said Ozernik had no clue what to do. "He lacked initiative. He would call a meeting, tell us, 'We are lost, we are lost,' until we all fell asleep," she said.

Eventually, the factory's debts equaled a half-million dollars. Workers and managers began to strip the plant of machinery, electrical equipment, even bricks from the walls. Ozernik built himself a house with factory funds.

"I was not the only one for whom the factory built a house," he said. "Later, I privatized it, like everyone else."

The few hundred workers who remain now farm the land. They are rarely paid, according to Savina.

"You have to beg and cry for it. You come and beg, and sometimes you get 100 rubles, sometimes

some eggs. "I worked at this factory all my life," she said. "Now, when I am walking toward it, it seems to me I am walking toward the cemetery. There are weeds everywhere, empty spaces, ruins."

She paused. "Are you American? Your America, it seems, is very glad about these so-called reforms. Is that so? Are you glad we are falling apart? There was an opinion here that there is gloating in America that we are becoming beggars."

FORTY minutes down the road, in Bryansk itself, the Snezhka factory's 2,000 workers watched the disintegration of Velyaminovskaya in dismay.

"They were waiting for the state to come to their rescue," said Mikhail Kashevarov, Snezhka's deputy director. "They were still relying on someone to bring them money."

Snezhka flourished, too, once the state no longer tended to its needs. But in 1993, the director installed by the Communist Party died, and the workers, who now owned the factory, hired an aggressive 34-year-old former collective-farm director, Nikolai Denin.

He saw Snezhka's only hope was to cut costs and improve production. He also realized he had to involve the workers in the effort,

so teams that slashed expenses were paid more.

The biggest problem was poor-quality, high-priced fodder, so he spent the factory's scarce resources on better food and nutrients.

The results showed in the birds' weight gain: Chickens now put on 1.5 ounces a day, up from about two-thirds of an ounce. That means Snezhka can sell a chicken in 42 days instead of 65.

Eventually, the factory built its own fodder plant, saving 30% to 40% on fodder costs and eliminating the many supply problems that beset other producers. Snezhka also opened 14 of its own stores.

It is slowly replacing the boiler heating system with the less expensive gas generators and shifting to a cheaper ventilation system. One of its few extravagances is the kindergarten. Factory officials say if they turn it over to the state, the children won't be fed.

Modernization has proceeded slowly, because plants such as Snezhka have few sources of capital. Interest rates on bank loans have ranged as high as 200%.

"The ones that took out credits really went bankrupt," said Vladimir Fisinin, head of the Russian Poultry Association. Firms that tried to sell their stock on Russia's new stock market found it sold for almost nothing. (The Washington Post)

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Looking into murderers' minds

By HELEN KAYE

There's an awful, gut-twisting feeling of déjà vu at *Assassins*, the musical Steven Sondheim wrote in 1990. It's a revue and a review of actual and wannabe US presidential assassins, from John Wilkes Booth who murdered Abraham Lincoln to John F. Kennedy's assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, and John Hinckley, who tried to kill Ronald Reagan.

Déjà vu because now we have our own assassin, Yigal Amir, the man who killed a lot more than just the prime minister when he fired the three shots that murdered Yitzhak Rabin on November 4, 1995.

A concert version of the musical will have 15 performances starting on Friday at Beit Lessin. It stars, among others, Aki Avni as Booth; Gil Alon as Charles Guiteau, something of a religious fanatic and the man who shot James Garfield; Eli Gorenstein as the proprietor of the fairground shooting gallery, where the musical starts; Hani Nahmias as Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, the Manson groupie who shot at Gerald Ford, and Sassi Keshet as the balladeer who ties it all together.

Beit Lessin general manager Zippi Pines and 26-year-old director Ohad Ashkenazi decided that this was one show they had to do, because of the enormity of Rabin's assassination, because of what has happened since and because of their and others' conviction that "the next murder is unavoidable," as Ashkenazi puts it.

"With Rabin's murder we have become 'normal,' that is, we've joined those for whom the unthinkable becomes possible.

"I hope the musical will provoke discussion because it gives us a look into the murderers' minds. Perhaps it will make us more alert to the potential murderers who live among us. It's scary how much conscience there is between Booth and Amir; between his time and ours."

Assassins should light a huge red light in our society," says Avni. "I read an article the other day which asked people how we've changed since the murder. What [former IBA head] Moti Kirschbaum said scared me the most, because he talked about the next murder, and we all know that it's possible."

SHAKESPEARE coined the phrase that it's the theater's job to hold, as it were, a mirror up to

nature; in other words, to reflect the society where that theater is made.

In 1990, *Assassins* wouldn't have projected the menace it does today, when it is a grim reverberation of those shots three years ago. At the recently concluded Acre Festival, there were three plays that reflected on Rabin's murder. And the Habimah National Theater will present *Three Years On*, whose 12 performances have already been sold out to high schools all over the country. There will probably be more.

But it was 20 years before Hillel Mittelman wrote *Gordish*, a biographical drama about the 1973 Yom Kippur War which epitomized the trauma of that war for Israeli society.

And while the Holocaust hovers like a malignant mist over our national psyche, local playwrighting on that part of our history, except for Yehoshua Sobol's *Vilna Ghetto Trilogy*, is indirect and circum-spect. Hanoch Levin has come the closest with his *The Child Dreams*.

So isn't it too early for theater here to respond to Rabin's murder?

"Yes," says Pines, "three years is too soon. The parallel of *Assassins* is just a horrible coincidence. As a nation we need time to assimilate what has happened to us. There has to be that distance, and the material needs to undergo transformation, otherwise it's just reportage."

Not all agree. Aki Avni believes that in this particular case the theater can act as a warning beacon "because we're in the peace process and in the middle of huge arguments. I'm afraid that the discussions on Jerusalem will lead to civil war. This play says 'watch out,' that we need to listen to one another because if not, we know the outcome."

Igal Ezrati is the director of *Three Years On*, which is a multimedia collage of events surrounding Rabin's death. He says that playmaking counteracts what he sees as a process of denial of this particular trauma, that "theater expresses what we feel now."

Playwright Shmuel Hasfari paraphrases his colleague, Sayon Librecht, "who says that creation is possible when the gap between the national and the personal decreases. So you really can't generalize about how much time has to pass before the theater can address this or that national trauma. It can be that the trauma stimulates the closure of a personal



Sassi Keshet (left) stars as the balladeer, while Aki Avni portrays John Wilkes Booth in 'Assassins.'

process, not its beginning.

"When I directed *Mourning*, which I'd written right after the 1996 elections, the year of mourning that gripped the whole country after the assassination gave me an opening to discuss a private grief, that of my father's death."

Mourning is the last of Hasfari's post-Zionist trilogy whose first two are *Kiddush* and *Hameretz*.

He points out that Ilan Ronen's *The Civil Wars*, currently playing at Habimah, "is the Jewish *Assassins*, which speaks of the murderers of Jewish history. Certainly that play is a result of the murder because in it Amir shakes hands with Mattathias the Hasmonean, a passing on of the torch of fanaticism.

"Perhaps the Acre plays were

premature. The point is that they act as a catalyst for the lifting of a curtain to show us things that we don't want to see.

"It is theater's sole job to hold a mirror up to human nature. The moment that a connection occurs between what happens to the individual and what happens to society is the moment that the spark catches fire."

Virtual reality 'Magic Flute' has a modern moral

By HELEN KAYE

Three little kids have to stay in after-school. They have to do some extra work, so they decide to cheat, and get the computer to do it for them, even though they're not sure of what they're doing.

Oops! And they're right in the middle of a virtual-reality version of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, or Tamino's adventures in computerland, the first Hebrew-language production by the New Israeli Opera. It opens at the Noga Theater in Jaffa on November 3, and will travel to Jerusalem, Haifa and Ashdod.

Talking to director Michael MacCaffery and translator Ehud Manor, it sounds as if they and the singers are having so much fun, they should be paying the NIO, not the other way around.

All right, so the story is straight from fantasyland. Prince Tamino (Felix Livschitz) is lost in the forest. He's attacked by a fearsome dragon from which he's saved by three mysterious ladies.

They enlist his services for the Queen of the Night (Sharon Rostorf). She asks him to save her daughter, Pamina (Marina Levit)

from the wicked high priest, Sarastro (Vladimir Braun) who has kidnapped her.

We-ell, everybody knows that the Queen of the Night is a practiced liar. Sarastro isn't wicked at all as Tamino and his feathered sidekick, Papageno (Dani Ettinger), discover, and the story spins magically along until the Happy Ending.

In MacCaffery's version, it's not in the least a coincidence that the characters look like something from *Toy Story* and other computer-animated movies.

"It's a modern equivalent of the stories that were around when Schikaneder wrote his libretto," he says. "We're just using a contemporary analogy for those old stories, and it has already become mythic, just like the old fairy tales."

"I think the opera is about developing, learning and growing, so I wanted to find a way to communicate that to the young audience this production is aimed at. Computers, and what you can do with them, was the obvious choice."

"But the moral of our story is that unless you know what you're doing, don't do it, and don't take

anyone else's advice for granted either. Find out for yourself."

Billed as an opera for the whole family, this *Magic Flute* is abridged to around two hours from its original three-plus. That's why it's officially called *The Little Magic Flute*.

Translating the German text was no more difficult than those he's done before, says Manor, as he reels off past successes like *Les Misérables*, *The Threepenny Opera* or *Cabaret*.

This translation was special, nonetheless, "because this opera has been sung in German for so many years that it's a big step for the singers to do it in a different language, even though, in this case, the language is their own."

"I always try to find words in Hebrew that sound like those in the original language because usually the singers know the songs, especially the musicals, and singing the same sounds makes it easier."

"The most satisfying part of the work was meeting with the singers and having to change word endings and rhymes on the spot. 'I can't sing an eh sound,' they'd say, 'make it an ee or an oo.' It was fun, challenging fun."



Prince Tamino (Felix Livschitz) is saved by mysterious ladies.

Mozart's 'new' work

By ROBIN ESTRIN

Two hundred years after his death, an opera that some believe was partly Mozart's having its premiere. Musicologist David Buch says he is certain that three segments of an obscure Viennese opera were written by the leading composer of the classical period.

In all, 20 minutes - nearly one-quarter of the late-18th-century work - have been newly attributed to Mozart. The Boston Baroque Orchestra plays *The Philosopher's Stone* on Friday in a performance billed as the "modern-day world premiere" of a work by "Mozart and company."

Scholars believe the work hasn't been played since about 20 years after Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's death in 1791.

Buch, who teaches music at the University of Northern Iowa, was researching 18th-century operas when he stumbled upon a cache of music that the Soviets had taken out of Germany at the end of

World War II. In the early 1990s, the Russians returned thousands of pages of original manuscripts to the archives of the City and University Library in Hamburg, Germany. Among them: *The Philosopher's Stone* (*Der Stein der Weisen*).

Buch admits it is possible that someone wrote Mozart's name on the manuscript to impress music-lovers of the time. After all, Mozart was enormously popular in his own day. But why would someone attribute only three small sections to him and not the entire work?

Buch's find - provided it is accepted by the academy into Mozart's canon - won't do much to alter music historians' thinking about Mozart.

But it could provide insight into how the man worked as a collaborator in what one musicologist described as a "Broadway musical" style of composing, and not just as an isolated genius. (AP)

Double-disc set presents unfamiliar Mozart

CLASSIC DISCS

By MICHAEL ALPERSTADT

The double-disc set (two discs for the price of one) has become a great marketing tool for all disc labels. These double-disc series enable the uninitiated to build a new disc library with some of the masterpiece recordings of the past few decades, and enable those whose libraries are full of vinyl records to replace them with the more modern technology, if they want.

A few additions from the Philips and Decca labels suggest that indeed, this is an excellent way to build and enlarge your CD library.

Bernard Haitink is one of a few conductors whose Mahler recordings are powerful, invigorating and captivating. Coupling

the Ninth Symphony with *Das Lied von der Erde* to provide more than 145 minutes of music in one set is an amazing feat, and the performance level of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra is so exciting that one has no problems whatsoever with this being an almost 30-year-old recording (Mahler, Philips Duo 462 299-2).

The coupling of Dvorak's entire set of string quintets with the more popular piano quintet and the less familiar string sextet in a performance by members of the Berlin Philharmonic Octet from 1968 is one of the most enjoyable albums I have heard recently (Dvorak, *The Complete String Quintets*, Philips Duo 462 284-2).

It is an exhilarating rendition focusing on Dvorak's love of the folk elements he used as the basis of so many of his works.

The coupling of the *Pelleas et*

Melisande renditions by Sibelius, Schoenberg and Fauré is not novel, yet always revealing and engaging. Here we can enjoy one other work by each composer and the disc (*Pelleas et Melisande*, Philips Duo 462 309-2) is more than rewarding; it is a testimony that a powerful story can inspire quite contrasting musical adaptations from various composers.

One of the most exciting additions to the catalog is Mozart, *Laudate Dominum* (Double Decca 458 379-2), five choral works by Mozart that are very rarely performed, in recordings from the '70s and '80s that totally shy away from the modern authentic early-music movement.

Yet all these renditions delve deep into the essence of Mozart's original score and the way in which Sir Neville Marriner presents his Mozart has always been more than gripping. Unfamiliar Mozart at its freshest.

NEWS

of the muse

By HELEN KAYE

Singing in English

There are 12 finalists in this year's Southern AACI English Song Competition, out of 63 original entries. The finalists are from Jerusalem and the central area, and all but two of them are new to the three-year-old contest. Moshe Averick from Jerusalem was a 1996 finalist, as was Tel Aviv's Bruce Brill, who was also a finalist last year. Prizes include professional studio recording time, a trip abroad and local weekend hotel packages. The finals are on November 12 at the Beersheba conservatory. Info through AACI at (07) 623-0688 or (02) 561-9252.

Beer and the blues

Tel Aviv's Enav Center hosts the '98/99 season of *Blues*, *Heineken and Soul* with Texan singer/guitarist Alan Haynes on October 29. He'll appear with local blues singer Ronnie Peterson and his band. Haynes is one of eight US musicians who'll be playing at the center with their Israeli counterparts over the next five months. They are Chicago blues songstress Zora Young (December 3), award-winning Texan singer/pianist Katie Webster and singer/guitarist Vas-tie Jackson from Mississippi (December 24), veteran singer/saxophonist A.C. Reed (January 1) and harmonica wizard and singer Paul Delay (February 25). The grand finale comes on March 25 and features guitarist Dave Specter and singer Lenny Lynn - both from Chicago - along with Peterson. The series costs NIS 400 and single tickets are from NIS 60 to NIS 80.

Solo theater

Three English-speaking actors present plays in the International TheaterNetto monodrama festival which takes place at the Habimah National Theater and at the Jerusalem Theater from December 2 to 4. *The Thousandth Night*, performed by US actor Ron Campbell, tells the story of French actor Guy de Bonheur on his way to Buchenwald in World War II. Caught trying to escape, he tries to save his life, like Sheherazade, by telling stories to his Nazi guards. Campbell, who plays 38 characters, won the *Los Angeles Times* critics prize earlier this year.

England's Steven Berkoff returns with *The Despiséd*, his one-man show on Shakespearean villains like Iago, Shylock and Richard III. New Zealand's hottest young actor, Tim Balme, plays his own *Jimmy Costello*, a story, based on fact, of a small-time con whose jailbreaks made him a folk hero. Argentina's Cipe Lincovsky makes a return visit with *Cipe Speaks Brechi* (Spanish) and our own Ruby Porat-Shoval performs *Naomi*, based on the life of a Beduin.

World-acclaimed German movie star Hanna Schygulla presents an evening of excerpts from Mark Twain, Fassbinder, Peter Handke, Charles Baudelaire and others called *Keep on Dreaming* in English. French and German, and Fanny Mikey from Colombia presents a Spanish-language version of *Shirley Valentine*. Finally Russia's Sergei Yursky presents a medley in *Pushkin and Others*. Tickets are already on sale at NIS 90 through Habimah, the Jerusalem Theater and the Kassel ticket office.

Local dance makes waves

By HELEN KAYE

Israeli dance has been making waves this past year, especially in Europe, where major festivals have hosted our dance companies to critical and audience acclaim. *Curtain Up: International Exposure*, which opens at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv on November 12, has made a huge contribution to this dance explosion over the past nine years. SDC head Yair Vardi invites arts-center and festival directors worldwide to come to Tel Aviv and get acquainted with Israel's up-and-coming (mostly) young choreographers and companies.

This year there are so many of them that the event stretches over four weekends through December 13. Some of the choreographers have already made a considerable name for themselves. They include Liat Dror and Nir Ben-Gal whose exquisite, exciting *The Dance of Nothing* (which includes spiced cookies for the audience), will be performed in a rooftop tent on the plaza; the ever-imaginative Noa Dar whose *Euesaurus: Frida* is a meditation on Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera; Noa Wertheim, Adi

Shalal and Verigo who will dance *Shalal's Hamsin* - and - Neta Paternmacher's "memory-laden *Red Cow*. Pulvermacher lives and works in New York.

"We enticed her to create a work with Verigo," says artistic director Eran Baniel.

Arts and Culture Authority head Micha Yinnon was at the press conference last week to announce ACA's warm support for dance, which he called the "youngest and most energetic" discipline on the local performing-arts scene. Thanks to a special ACA grant, the Batsheva Ensemble will dance pieces by five choreographers, *Broken* by Itzik Galili who lives and works in Holland, and the revised *Shoshana's Balcony* by the newest local dance sensation Barak Marshall.

There is also *Hara* by Tamar Borer, *Kriat Shma* by Amir Kolben and Kombina, *Pars Pro Toto* by Rami Levy who works in Sweden and Madrid, and *Bach* by Rina Schenfeld, the doyenne of local dance-makers.

Despite the seemingly sumptuous banquet, the budget for this major dance event is NIS 910,000, at least 50 percent less than for a theater festival.

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The first tests of Wye

The ink is barely dry on the Wye River Memorandum and already we are seeing its first tests: Two murders on the same day – one Jew, one Arab. At the same time, the limits and quality of democratic debate are being tested in Israel, as once again the charge of treason is being hurled at a prime minister.

On Monday, 29-year-old Danny Vargas, of Kiryat Arba, was shot and killed by assailants who fled into the Palestinian-controlled sector of Hebron.

Hours later, the body of 68-year-old Mohammed Zalmout, of Beit Furik, was found in an olive grove near the settlement of Itamar, in Samaria.

Yesterday, Palestinian officials announced that they had arrested Vargas's killer, that he had turned in his accomplices, and that he admitted to murdering Itamar Doron on October 14, near Moshav Ora. Israeli Police reportedly think they know who killed Zalmout, that he is not a resident of the territories, and they are, of course, trying to apprehend him as quickly as possible.

Zalmout's murder was swiftly condemned by figures on the Israeli Right, such as Aharon Domb, secretary-general of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, who said, "If our fears prove true, this murder must be condemned. This is not the way of the Jews." On the Palestinian side, the initial response (from PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser Ahmed Tibi) was to demand that Israel place a closure on Itamar, just as a closure had been imposed on Palestinian-controlled Hebron following the murder of Vargas.

This Palestinian attempt to wrap themselves in the language of reciprocity is at once valid and demagogic. Police do not believe that the residents of Itamar, or any settlement, had anything to do with the killing of Zalmout.

Even if a Jewish murderer were to originate from one of the settlements, it is inconceivable that any Jewish community would protect him from the police, given that Israelis from across the political spectrum utterly reject terrorism. The existence of a handful of extremists who sympathize with Jewish terrorism, such as those who honor the memory of Baruch Goldstein, does not change this fact.

On the Palestinian side, unfortunately, polls and popular support for terrorist organizations indicate that it is not a fringe phenomenon. Even official newspapers and television routinely contain comparisons of Jews to Nazis and praise of "martyrdom," i.e. suicide terrorism against Israelis. Until now, it has been entirely credible that terrorists escaping into Palestinian-controlled territory would be protected by parts of the population, and even by the Palestinian

security forces.

The whole point of the Wye Agreement, from Israel's perspective, is to change the landscape of tacit acceptance of terrorism. If, as reported, the murderer of Danny Vargas was swiftly caught and arrested, we might be seeing the beginning of the fruits of Wye. Judea and Samaria police chief, Cmdr. Yitzhak Aharonovich, indicated evidence of this, saying, "This time, cooperation with the Palestinian Police [in the search for Vargas's killers] is very good."

The Palestinians, and Israelis for that matter, have a right to expect that Zalmout's killer will be swiftly caught and brought to justice. The rare instances of Jewish terrorism, as tragic as they are, provide an opportunity for Israel to serve as an example of how the Palestinians should act. In this respect, it is disappointing that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not immediately condemn the Zalmout killing. If and when there is verification that this was a case of Jewish terrorism, Netanyahu should express his condolences to Arafat and to the victim's family.

In general, the Palestinians intend to turn the concept of "reciprocity," pressed so strongly by Netanyahu, to their advantage. Though the Wye Agreement has been criticized for using too much reciprocal language – equating the Israeli and Palestinian responsibility to fight terrorism, for example – Israel has nothing to fear and everything to gain from a level playing field.

In the coming weeks, the Palestinians will attempt to compare Israel's record of combating violent extremism and incitement with their own. The tendency to dismiss such comparisons and reject any accusations should be resisted; again, the existence of Jewish extremism is an opportunity for Israel to demonstrate by example the standard of behavior it expects of the Palestinians.

The issue of incitement within the Israeli political debate is also an opportunity to set proper democratic standards. President Ezer Weizman, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, and other leaders are correct to call on the right-wing fringe not to call Netanyahu a "traitor" and other epithets that might justify violence. But the concept of incitement should not itself be so blithely tossed about that it loses its power and meaning.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak's accusing Netanyahu of "incitement" because he claimed that Labor would have given up over 90 percent of the West Bank is going too far. Netanyahu should stop trying to bolster his own accomplishments at the expense of previous governments because it is divisive, not because it is inciteful.



Student lock-out

DAVID NEWMAN

This year, it is the students' turn. Nearly every academic year begins with a strike, either by the academic staff or the students. Last year the lecturers delayed the opening of studies for a few days, and this year it is the turn of the students.

The academic staff fully supports the students in their strike. We are well aware of the difficulties facing students in making ends meet, not only paying their tuition fees but also for accommodation, living costs and expensive books and study materials.

As the cost gets higher, so too does the need for students to find part-time employment which, in turn, forces them to cut down on the amount of time devoted to their studies. They try to arrange their class-schedules on non-working days, they have less time to sit in the library and prepare their assignments and, all in all, standards drop as they become more intent on earning more and studying less.

The truth be known, the academic staff is also on the verge of striking once again, given their poor salaries which would shame any other system of higher education in the world.

The world may be cynical about the workload of a university professor, but this is based largely on ignorance of what their work entails. Despite reports to the contrary, most university faculty work exceptionally long hours engaged in teaching, research, administration, writing and serving on public committees, more often than not taking their work home with them late in the evening and on weekends.

This time the students have decided to act tough, much in the same way the lecturers did back in 1994 when they shut down the higher education system for nearly two months.

If and when this strike is resolved, students and staff alike will have to find ways to make up for lost time. If, as in 1994, this means giving students "pass"

grades for courses they hardly attended this, once again, will lower the overall standards of the educational qualifications achieved.

BUT IT IS not just about the size of the wage packet or the level of student fees. It is about something much deeper.

It is about the way in which society values the need for higher education. Not only in the techni-

The government makes it difficult for students to study, for teachers to teach and for scholars to undertake their research

cal job-producing fields of study but also, and perhaps even more, in those fields which increase general understanding of the world and the complex society in which we live.

Not only in medicine and computers, but also in the liberal arts and humanities, without which we would be a nation of ignorant citizens, unable to draw on the lessons of the past or from other societies to make our own world a little better.

There is a growing demand for higher education in Israel, which should be encouraged and promoted. In addition to the universities, numerous regional colleges have begun teaching undergraduate degree courses in recent years, which eventually will allow the universities to concentrate on advanced degrees and research.

But it is a continual struggle to maintain teaching levels and quality research when the government

makes it difficult for students to study, for teachers to teach and for scholars to undertake their research. During the past three years, the government has reduced its level of support for the universities, demanding that they find more funding from private sources, forcing faculty to spend time fund-raising for research, and students to fork out higher tuition fees for education.

Into this gap, the government has allowed foreign universities to sell their dubious wares in the form of cheap, often fictitious, degrees which cheapen the reputation of Israel's higher education system even further.

They need only receive minimal accreditation from the Education Ministry, take out full-page advertisements in the press and, before you know it, people can have a first, second or even third degree from a foreign university they have never visited.

When, indeed was the last time an Israeli scientist won a Nobel prize? (Not Jewish, but Israeli.) It has never happened. And the chances of it happening are getting more remote as the level of support afforded to the universities continually decreases, as the best brains seek greener pastures in the private sector or outside Israel, and as we increase quantity at the expense of quality.

It is high time for a serious debate about the place of higher education in Israeli society. This debate must include government, faculty and students.

If our society truly values education, it must be prepared to invest the resources that are necessary to place the universities at the top of the pyramid. Otherwise, our once-highly esteemed institutes of teaching and research will become nothing more than third rate colleges, nothing more than a resting post for young adults in transition from the army to the workplace. All of us, faculty and students alike, must work together to prevent this from happening.

Brouhaha in Bohemia

RUTHIE BLUM

A big brouhaha is brewing in Bohemia.

Singer Meir Ariel and artist Uri Lifschitz opened their mouths in recent newspaper interviews and promptly inserted their left-wing feet.

Before Ariel's CDs were chucked en masse into the trash bins of former fans offended by his remarks about homosexuality, however, the repentant night-gale apologized and was granted a "gay" pardon.

Lifschitz may not be so lucky. Though he, too, published a retraction of his disgraceful comments about homosexuals and the handicapped, outraged art-lovers may not be as quick to welcome his works in their homes.

So stunned has everybody been by the content of these interviews that the press has been having a field day the likes of which only the goings-on at Wye Plantation managed to upstage.

The voicing of negative sentiments about same-sex unions – which has become about as taboo as pork at a kosher table – in itself is mildly newsworthy these days. That such sentiments were voiced by two different darlings of the Left is cause for the media blitz.

I was not surprised that either of these two paragons of culture espouse the views they let loose (though I was amazed at their gall and stupidity for expressing them publicly – particularly while being profiled in a paper that gives new meaning to the term "political correctness.") I know many individual promoters of liberal values who, like Ariel, are repelled by homosexuality, and an even greater number who, like Lifschitz, believe in enforced Darwinism.

IN COUNTLESS battles on the issue of abortion throughout the years, I have never come across a liberal who was against the detection of fetal imperfections for the purpose of nipping them in the

Hopefully, some members of Bohemia will rethink their deadly positions

bud. The very same people who would fight to save the whales, feed the Somalis, ensure Palestinian statehood and further affirmative action are capable of pontificating endlessly on the right – nay duty – of potential mothers to abort any fetus, at any stage of pregnancy, at will.

In part, this position stems from the belief in a woman's "right to decide" on what is put in and what comes out of her body. Lest one imagine that the case for wiping out unwanted pregnancies rests on the plight of the "weaker sex," however, he should slap himself on the wrist for underestimating the power of liberal values. No self-respecting pro-abortionist ever neglects to strengthen his argument by pointing to the "travesty" of birth defects.

The less enlightened among them focus on the suffering of those born with genetic or other problems. "Imagine the pain," they sympathize, "Imagine the trauma."

The slightly more progressive among them feel for the parents. "Imagine the trauma," they cluck their tongues, "Imagine the hospital bills. And the special schools."

The most avid get right to the quick. "Imagine the hospital bills and the special schools," they emphasize, "Imagine the taxpayers' money."

Imagine – as Lifschitz so gently put it – society's "wasted" energy and resources on its "superfluous" members.

Whether among the slightly less enlightened or among the more militantly so, all liberals have a soft spot in their hearts for the inherently redundant term known as the "quality of life." The phrase comes in handy when its loudest put on their euthanasia caps and present concerns about the "old and infirm" which are virtually indistinguishable from those they employ to support abortion. In other words, when the quality of someone's life is not up to a standard they determine, homicide of one form or another is legitimate.

Uri Lifschitz has never been known for his delicacy or his modesty. His art, like his dogma, is famous for its shock value. It would be the height of hypocrisy, then, for the people who normally admire him for his abrasiveness – and who share so many of his views – to shun him now.

True, perhaps this time he went too far, even for the mercy-killing crowd. But let's face it: there is nothing new in his outlook. Hopefully, before this particular brouhaha dies down, some members of Bohemia will be compelled to rethink their own deadly positions.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HOLY SITES

Sir, – Evelyn Gordon's outcry "Religious discrimination on the Mount" (October 20), concerning Jews attempting to pray on the Temple Mount seems far from justified.

Besides the two reasons she cites but discounts – that of rabbinic injunctions and the fear of Muslim riots – there is a very obvious and compelling reason to disallow Jewish worship there.

The Temple Mount, whatever its earlier historical and religious status, has been recognized for more than a millennium as a Moslem

holy site.

It should be as unthinkable to allow Jews to hold religious services there as it would to allow Moslems to hold religious services at the Western Wall on the grounds that this was where Mohammed had tied up his winged horse, Buraq, who had flown him up to heaven from the Temple Mount site of the al-Aqsa Mosque, built to commemorate this miraculous ascension.

REBECCA TOUEG
Haifa.

VERBAL VIOLENCE

Sir, – As an exercise in verbal violence, Bernard Wasserstein's article, "Roll over Jabotinsky" (October 25), was truly outstanding. His insults aimed at Benjamin Netanyahu's appearance, literacy and ancestry, not to mention the implication that his supporters can be equated to white South African racial supremacists, are quite something.

But would it really not be better to let Wasserstein go and grind his ax elsewhere, rather than despoil the pages of *The Jerusalem Post*, not to mention the whole notion of intelligent dialogue, with his vituperative drivel?

GORDON SHIFMAN
Kiryat Ono.

613 COMMANDMENTS

Sir, – In this day and age, there is not a balachic requirement to fulfill the 613 commandments, as indicated by Yaakov Neeman ("Grapevine," October 20).

Many of those commandments refer to a period when there is a

Temple standing in Jerusalem. So in that respect, he is 100% correct in stating that he "knows of no Jew" who follows all 613.

AJ WEISS
Tel Aviv.

BAD ROAD SAFETY ADVICE

Sir, – I strongly disagree with Cmdr. Udi Efrat's advice to leave one child behind in a car when there are three children and two seatbelts, as quoted in "A policeman talks about kids and road safety" (October 21).

There is a safe way to belt all three children, provided that they are of similar weight: secure the right seatbelt around the middle child and the child on the right, and then secure the left seatbelt around the left child and also across the middle child. The latches in the car must be the same as you are actually fastening each of the belts to the opposite base. Each child will be belted in his own space as the belts cross over each other in front of the middle child.

When my own children were young in the US, I did many hours of volunteer work with the National Child Passenger Safety Association, and this is what was recommended at the time.

I think this is a better solution to the problem than allowing one child to travel unbelted.

JOYCE KUSHNER
Ra'anana.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On October 28, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that all of Egypt's first-line aircraft were destroyed.

Reliable UN sources in Paris reported that the British Royal Air Force organized a regular air-lift supply of arms and ammunition to the Arab Legion, in direct violation of the cease-fire and the UN embargo on arms shipments

to the Middle East, to which Great Britain had subscribed.

25 years ago: On October 28, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that due to apparent US pressure, Israel and Egypt agreed to meet to discuss the truce and the much needed supplies for the surrounded Egyptian Third Army.

Israel held about 5,000 Arab POWs. The wounded POWs were

sent home under Red Cross auspices.

The Middle East war and the US military alert were reported to have strained relations between the US and NATO, with the US criticizing its allies from disassociating themselves from the American support for Israel.

Alexander Zvielli

1501 10/28/98

סדרה של האמל

When 'nanny envy' bites, it really hurts

Deneen L. Brown describes what happened when another woman walked into her home, picked up her baby and waited for her to leave for work

They didn't hear me when I came home early that day. The other woman was in my kitchen; he was in her arms. He was dreamy-eyed and drooling. I could see, from where I stood, her lipstick smudged on his face.

She giggled. They both laughed. They were singing some silly song, all wrapped up in each other. I had caught them in the act.

I spied them from the garage door. They did not hear me, so I slammed it again. Then they both looked up at me.

She was wide-eyed, fumbling, uncertain about what to do. I hurried to wrest him from her arms. He began to cry. Betrayal, I thought, in my own house, and in the light of day.

Insane jealousy whirled through my mind. And all he could say about the matter was "Mommy!" I tried composing myself, yet I felt overcome. This woman was doing everything I wanted to do — except I had to work.

She was in my kitchen; I wanted to be in my kitchen. She was singing to my baby in the middle of the day; I wanted to sing to him in the middle of the day. She had all the fun times; I had the middle of the night, when he wouldn't go to sleep.

"Mommy," he said, looking so innocent. That word could not fully squelch my jealousy. I kissed him and calculated my revenge.

My goal: Get that woman out of my house; get my baby out of her arms.

That was Plan A. I had no Plan B, meaning what I would do with this baby in the middle of the day, when both my husband and I had to work. At that moment, Plan B didn't seem to matter.

BABYSITTER jealousy was a term I could not comprehend until six months after I had delivered a child, nursed him, pampered him, read to him, cradled him — then handed him over to another woman. The nanny, the babysitter,

the woman who lives under the stairs, whatever you may call her, is the woman who is there to keep your baby when you cannot, who has full power over the home when both parents are out.

In some households, for more than 10 hours a day, she is there when you are not. And who knows what kind of bond they develop in those long hours when Mommy and Daddy are gone? She is possibly one of the most important people in your life. That was something I would not come to realize until much later.

I had watched *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle*, and I remembered the line from the movie. The hand on the cradle rules the house.

I was having none of that: Nobody's hand was going to be rocking my baby's cradle or ruling my house. I had heard the stories from other women: "Just wait until he calls her Mommy." I had read the stories in the parenting magazines of women whining about what to do when their babies cry for the sitter over the real mommy.

As I prepared to go back to work, I prepared to mark my territory.

MY mother-in-law, who has two doctorates, called the week before I was to end my maternity leave.

"It's going to be hard," she said in a soothing voice, "but your baby will be able to pick you out of a crowded room of women. Don't worry, no other woman will be able to take your place."

Right, I thought, and burst into tears. He doesn't know that if I leave I'm really coming back. He's too little to understand the complicated world of economics, commutes, career maintenance.

A friend advised me to explain everything to my baby in adult words: "Listen, I am your mother. I'm going to be gone for a few hours. But I will be back. Don't even think about calling this



woman Mommy. I am your mommy. I will always be your mommy. Okay? Now give Mommy — your real mommy — a hug."

With the baby prepared by this lecture, I moved to other areas. I had to walk a fine line of contra-

dictions. I had to let this woman know I trusted her, but I didn't trust her. I wanted to let her know I was leaving the house, but I would always be there. I wanted her to know she had some control, but I ruled.

I asked her to write down the baby's daily schedule: when he slept, when he ate, what they did. It was okay for her to hold him, but only after I left. It was okay for her to feed him, but I would decide what he ate. I picked his favorite red cup. I combed his hair and dressed

him. I read to him every morning: *Guess How Much I Love You*. I could have had five minutes to put my lipstick on and run out the door, but I would sit there calmly in the big overstuffed chair, acting as if I had not another care or thought in the world until I finished that book and he knew that I loved him to the "moon and back."

Then I would drive to work listening to the oh-so-caring Dr. Laura, who would tell any parent working to quit her job, move to a more-affordable area and make sure there was always one parent home with the kid. I would slump in my seat, bite my lip and think of ways to be there.

At the end of the working day, I would race home. Anybody in my way became an intolerable hurdle between me and my baby.

THERE was no advice in the *What to Expect* books about this kind of motherhood-induced insanity. My husband had absolutely no idea why I was so obsessed with getting rid of the sitter.

"When I came home from work today," I argued, "she was in the basement cleaning and he was all the way upstairs taking a nap."

"What's wrong with that?" my spouse asked, clearly puzzled. I couldn't explain, so I clearly had to make a better case.

She microwaved his milk. Crumbs were on his face when I got home. She let him sleep in his shoes. My husband could find nothing wrong in those infractions.

I did nutty things like call home in the middle of the day to see whether I could catch him screaming in the background.

He never was. He was always happy. And she was always pleasant, patiently answering all my questions. I tried, like a government prosecutor, to find something egregious that she'd done, so I would have cause to get rid of her. But nothing she said or did could convince my

husband that she was evil or incompetent.

Then one night when we were trying to teach the baby to fall asleep by himself, I heard him down the hall yelling, "Mommy! Daddy!" No response. (The book says to wait a few minutes before you answer — otherwise babies think they can control you.) "Mommy? Where are you? Daddy, where are you?" our son asked.

Then we heard: "Raquel!" And it hit me: This child trusted her. And needed her. If he called out for her at a moment of need, then that meant he liked her.

And if he liked her, that meant she liked him. And if they liked each other, it meant somehow he was telling me he had a good babysitter.

SLOWLY I began to see beyond the green that clouded my vision, and I grew to praise this woman. I could see that she was really good with my son.

She taught him the alphabet before he was 11 months old. She prepared a whole curriculum for him. One day I came home early and they were taking bowls from the cupboard, getting ready to work on a lesson in gravity. In moments of joy away from her, he would recall the little silly songs that she taught him.

I came to realize that my life — the one that holds down the three jobs of household, baby and work — would be much more difficult without her.

Finally, I knew it: I didn't want her out of my kitchen. I didn't want her out of my house.

Now, when I hear the sound of the car outside at 9:18 a.m. — when I am trying to feed junior one last spoonful of oatmeal and he is squirming and I have six minutes to get dressed and get out the door — the expectant voice I hear is my own. "Raquel?"

(The Washington Post)

How to nip youthful prejudice in the bud



By Ruth Mason

Our family has become friendly with a new-immigrant family from Ethiopia. We spend time with them at their caravan site and take them on occasional outings, and they are teaching us Amharic and traditional Ethiopian cooking.

But after a couple of months of this, our six-year-old has suddenly become reluctant to accompany us. He says he doesn't like people with black skin. We are shocked and dismayed. What's the best way to nip this early prejudice in the bud?

Uki Maroshek, educational director of the Adam Institute for Democracy and Peace, says:

There may be issues here unrelated to color.

Are you aware enough of what is going on with your son during these visits with the Ethiopian family? Does he get any attention? Could he be feeling left out?

Check to see what his needs are

during these times. It could be that he's jealous of the attention you give this family and their children. He might feel just the same way toward a white child to whom you were paying attention, but because these children are black he has something to hang his feelings onto.

What you need to do is break the concept of "all black people." I would suggest turning to the television for help.

There are many series today starring black people. Watch some of them with your child. Talk to him about which characters he likes and which he doesn't.

Does he admire Michael Jordan? Point out to him that Jordan and the television characters are also black. Emphasize that there are some black people he likes and some he doesn't and that it's okay — just as it is okay to like some white people, and not others.

You can also talk to your son about the children in his class, those he likes and those he doesn't. Let him see that while it's legitimate not to like some people, the color of their skin or the group to which they belong doesn't come into it.

You don't want to lecture him about this, but you can ask him questions that will bring him to his own conclusions. Then perhaps you can articulate them more clearly for him.

When we work with preschoolers, we begin by making them comfortable with their own identities, with their likes and dislikes. Then

we take them through a series of lessons designed to bring them to the understanding that people are different from one another, and that that is okay.

One way we do this is by having them listen to music, then painting the feelings the music evokes in them. We discuss the paintings and ask the children if it's true that some of them are right and others wrong. They begin to learn that in some areas there is no right and wrong, but that there are differences. The preschoolers then learn that because people are different, they sometimes have conflicts.

For example, we give them a big piece of cardboard on which to hang their paintings, but there isn't enough room on the board for all the paintings. They already know that everyone has the right to express himself and that we respect that expression, but now they see that it's not always so easy.

At first they fight. Through that, they learn why people fight. Then we teach them how to think creatively about solving problems.

One solution to the cardboard problem might be to hang it from the ceiling, thus giving the children room to mount paintings on both sides.

We aim to show children that they have the power in their minds and souls to solve problems in ways that don't involve fighting or humiliation. That process helps them build acceptance of others from the start, rather than waiting until racism develops.



Children need to learn that while it's legitimate not to like some people, it shouldn't be because of the color of their skin or the group to which they belong. (Nizkor Shorer)

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Corner



By Batsheva Mink

Three years ago, I planted three white and three blue African lilies (*Agapanthus campanulatus*), which I had bought for NIS 12 each. Two weeks ago I lifted them out and divided them into 40 new plants – which today would have cost me NIS 480.

The saving, however, is only one of many benefits to be gained from dividing perennial plants.

Dividing improves the border display and flowering performance. It helps keep plants healthy, prevents overcrowding and gives some control over the weeds.

Every three to five years it is worth going through your border and dividing plants that need it. Producing new plants can be very easy, even accidental. Many of us have put a bunch of flowers in a vase only to notice, as we prepare to throw them out, that one or two stems made roots in the water.

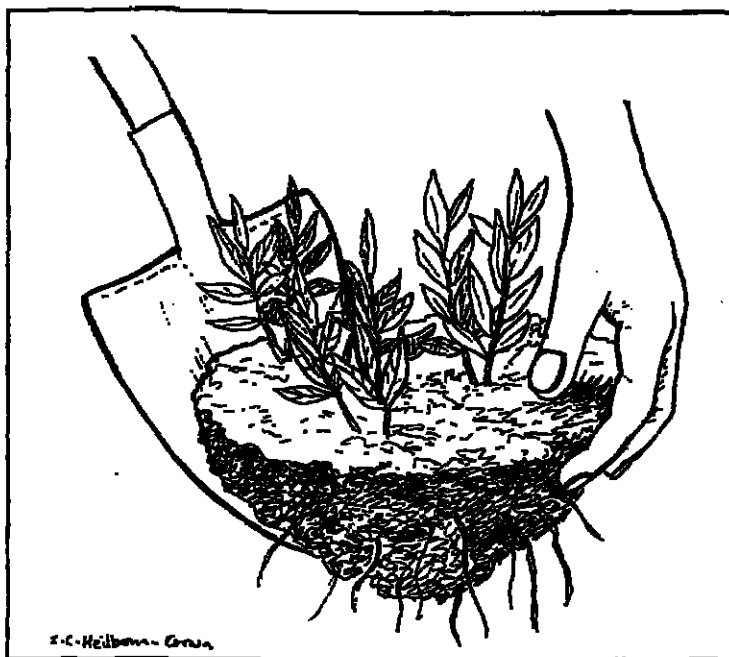
Dividing means breaking a plant into pieces that have enough roots and stems to survive on their own after transplanting. To divide a plant, simply dig it up and separate it. After all, a mature plant is really a collection of small, united plants – the result of stems taking root when they come into contact with soil.

Most plants that produce shoots from their base and have spreading roots can be divided into smaller-sized pieces, each capable of producing a new plant. Although some shrubs and bulbous plants can be divided in this way, this technique is usually reserved for herbaceous perennials (i.e. plants that do not make a persistent woody stem).

If you have a favorite perennial that has done well for several years but is now losing vigor and producing fewer flowers, its underlying roots are probably congested. By lifting the plant, throwing away the central portion and replanting the younger, more vigorous sections, the plant will be rejuvenated and flowering will improve.

Some perennials are easier to divide than others. *Achillea*, *chrysanthemum* and *sedum* are a mat of slender, shallow roots, which makes division easy. It is possible to pull the roots apart by hand. Tools may only be needed to dig them up. Others, however, have deeper roots which knit tightly together as they age and may need to be lifted with a fork or spade.

If you have never divided a plant before, I suggest you start with an



easy one like the shasta daisy (*Chrysanthemum maximum*), or day lilies (*Hemerocallis* sp.).

While dividing, remove any perennial weeds and enrich the border with well-rotted compost that will improve the soil's structure and water retention.

If your perennials are still flowering late into the year, you may have to wait to divide until spring. Autumn has the advantage, however, as the soil is still warm and the rains yet to come, allowing the new plants to settle in quickly.

Here are a few helpful guidelines to use when dividing.

1. Start by lifting an established plant, roots and all. Once the plant is out of the ground, lay it on its side and tease out most of the soil with your fingers.

2. Look closely at the roots and small stems to find the natural divisions. Tease away clusters of young stems that have their own roots. You may need to use a knife on a plant with heavily matted roots. Work from the bottom, tracing the roots and separating them by hand. Often a small cut or tear will make it easier to untangle and separate the roots.

Each cluster will form a new plant, provided it has at least one stem and a few roots. As a rule of thumb, the division needs to have more root growth than top growth to stand a chance of establishing itself without too much loss of water. How many divisions you make depends on the age and health of the plant.

3. When lifting and dividing, inspect the roots and shoots for any

pests and diseases. Select only the healthiest sections and throw away any infected plants. Plants with rhizomes, such as irises, are very prone to bacterial attack, leaving them soft and foul smelling.

4. Replant the pieces quickly before the roots dry out, or pot them up until you have time to replant them.

5. The best time to divide plants is either autumn or spring. As far as the physiology of the plant is concerned, the best time to lift and divide is right after flowering. At this time, new non-flowering shoots are being produced and new roots too.

6. To minimize the loss of water from new plants, it may be necessary to shorten tall stems or remove some leaves.

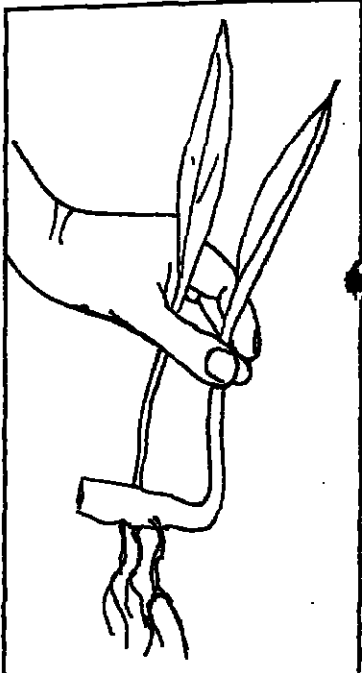
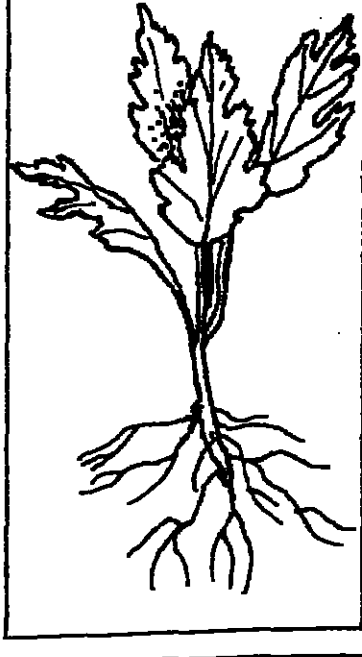
7. Divisions start life as small, slightly damaged plants. They need careful handling and transplanting. When dividing the plants, work quickly and be sure the roots never dry out. Choose a time when it is not too sunny and cover the plants with a cloth until you've managed to replant them.

8. Plant in well-prepared ground, digging in compost and turning the soil before planting. Plants can be planted in groups of three to five plants to get a good natural drift. If you have more than you need, you can pot them up and give them to friends as gifts. Plant a few in pots in case the ones in the garden don't make it. They can even be sold to raise funds for a favorite charity.

9. Remember your new plants have undeveloped roots and may



(Clockwise from top left) Lifting out the plant prior to division; gently prising the root ball apart; sometimes a pruner or sharp knife is necessary; a brand new, "no-cost" chrysanthemum ready for planting; an iris-type rhizome before potting. (Below) Looking for an easy introduction to division? Start with day lilies.



TIP OF THE WEEK

This is the time of year to tidy up the garden and clear it of the fallen leaves that become an ideal breeding ground for pests and diseases. All leaves should be put in the compost heap. In small gardens, a compost heap can be made in a large bucket with a few holes drilled in the bottom.

Here are a few easy-to-divide perennials: *Anemone* (Heb. *latana*), *Campanula* (Heb. *memari*), *Chrysanthemum* (Heb. *harzi*), *Evening primrose* (*Oenothera* sp., Heb. *ner halaila*), *Goldenrod* (*Solidago* sp., Heb. *mateh tzhov*), *Speedwell* (*Veronica* sp., Heb. *Ya'ari*), *Mimulus* (Heb. *Mimul*), *Mint* (Heb. *nano*), *Potentilla* (Heb. *hamshan*).

The following have the same name in Hebrew: *Achillea*, *Agrostis*, *Aster*, *Ashe*, *Coreopsis*, *Gallardia*, *Obelia*, *Monarda*, *Phlox*, *Rudbeckia* sp., *Guem*, *Iris*.

Batsheva Mink is a curator of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Givat Ram. Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, POB 3943, Jerusalem 91039.

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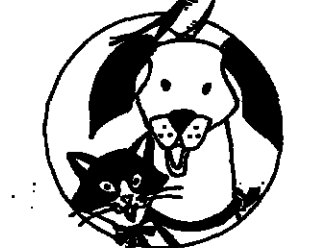
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Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

We get some very strange
telephone calls at *The
Jerusalem Post*, but last
week marked one of the strangest
- or perhaps I should say most
unusual.

A teenage boy returning to Israel
from the US, where he had spent
the summer, brought back a baby
alligator, no less, purchased in
Florida when it was about 10 cm.
long. So far he has kept it in a card-
board box and fed it on bits of fresh
fish, but he wanted more information
on how to care for his pet.

After a long telephone conversa-
tion I offered him the following
advice: Give your alligator to the
zoo or to the alligator farm at
Hamat Gader!

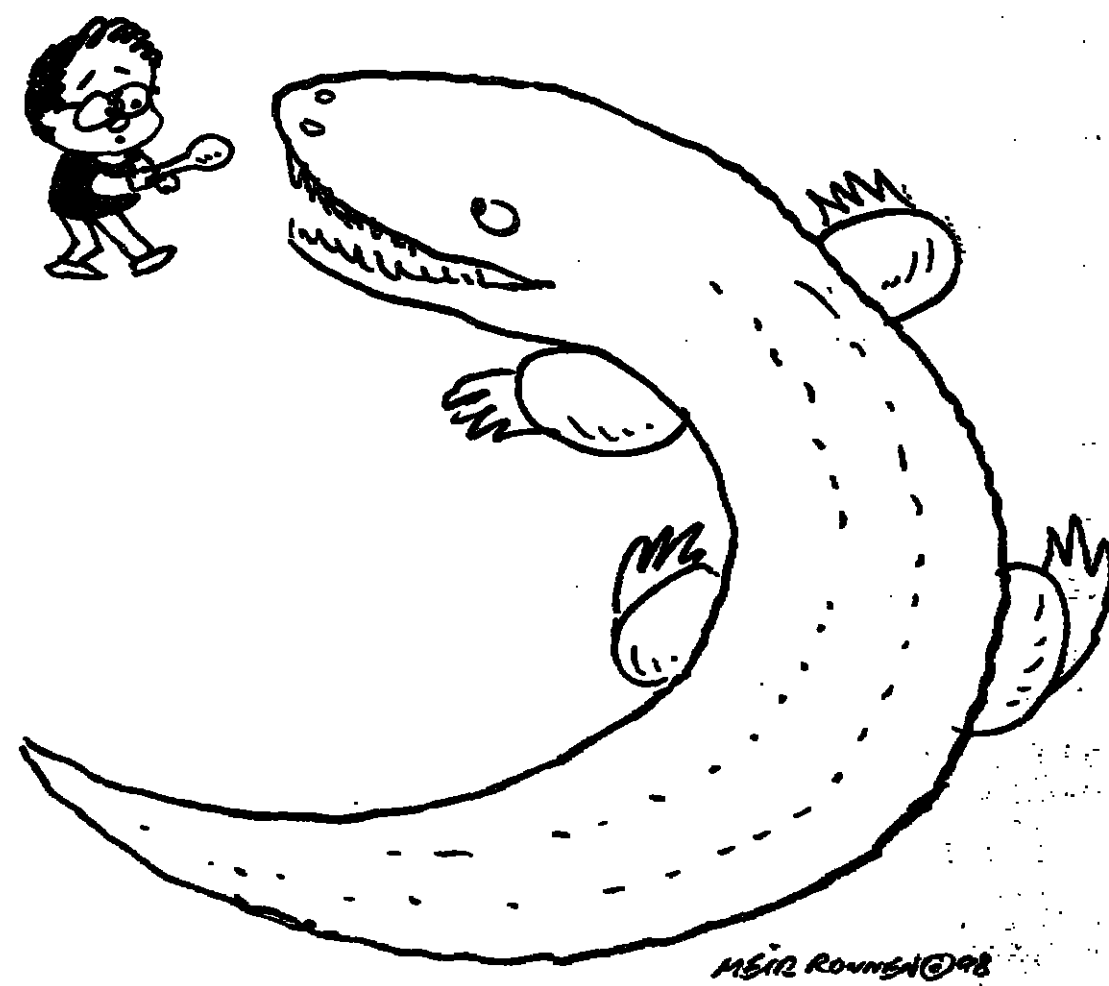
Little alligators, I explained,
grow up to be enormous saurians,
and there is simply no way you
can raise one in an apartment - or
even in a suburban garden - with-
out danger to human beings and
animals and cruelty to a poor crea-
ture that was never meant to be
confined in the meager space you
can allot it.

An alligator can't, I told this
young man, thrive on the diet he
can afford to feed it; nor should it
be exposed to the temperatures in
Jerusalem, where he lives. The
best place for it is where it can get
the kind of care it deserves.

THIS conversation opened up the
entire problem of exotic pets.

Far too many people buy all
kinds of animals because they are
"different" and interesting. They
acquire rare birds, iguanas, baby
monkeys - and heaven only knows
what else - without having the
most elementary knowledge of the
care these animals require, or any
idea of what they intend to do with
the creatures once they begin to
grow up.

Iguanas, for instance, need very
special care: just enough sunlight,
but not too much, with shade

When pets are turned
into prisoners

always available. They also need a
very large area to grow. Yet most
iguanas kept privately are
crammed into cages or aquariums
where they can hardly move, even
while still quite small.

A good many suffer kidney fail-
ure from the wrong diet or col-
lapse of the circulatory system
from cold conditions, overheating
or rapid temperature changes.
Most die - sometimes amid great
suffering.

Rare birds often suffer from
being kept in the wrong condi-
tions. Many parrots and cockatoos
eat their own feathers because of
malnutrition, since most people
think a diet of sunflower seeds

alone is all the bird needs.

Other parrots, bored and lonely
from being confined all their lives
to a perch or a cage, deprived of
the company of their own species,
develop neurotic habits and can
become very aggressive.

These gregarious birds are noth-
ing more than pathetic prisoners.
As for monkeys, there may be
somewhere out there, a monkey or
two that reached a fully mature
state without once biting or show-
ing aggression. All I can say is that
they were not among the hundreds
of monkeys I have handled, and
even hand-raised.

The worst of these are baboons
with their really fearsome fangs -

but in general, monkeys bite. As
one might expect, these animals do
eventually wind up in zoos; but
home-raised monkeys often do not
recognize other monkeys as their
own species and fail to adapt to
even the most suitable zoo situation.

In contrast to these tales of woe,
there are plenty of animals around
that make fine pet companions for
adults and children. So there is no
reason for people to try to be
"unusual" at the expense of exotic
animals that should never be
placed in such an adverse situation
to begin with.

Pet care begins with a little con-
sideration - and a lot of common
sense.

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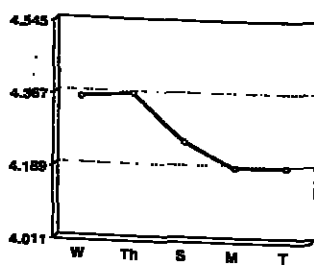
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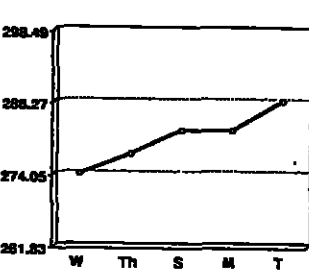
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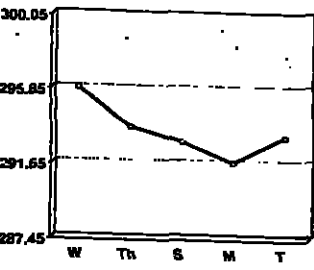


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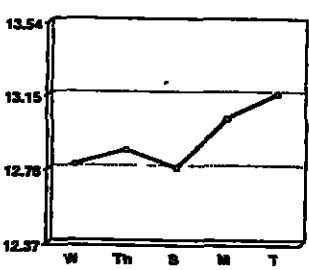
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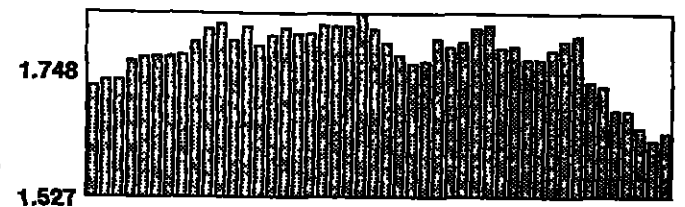


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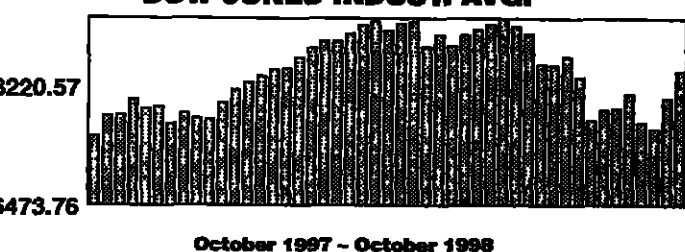
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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El Al links up with Iberia

El Al and Iberia, Spain's national carrier, signed an agreement yesterday to cooperate in several areas. According to the agreement, starting on January 1 all the flights of both companies on the Israel-Spain route would be marketed jointly. The two airlines plan to operate 16 weekly flights between Tel Aviv and Madrid. The agreement was reached after more than a year of negotiations, El Al said in a statement. The company said it plans to reach several more agreements in the coming months.

Dan Gerstenfeld

IAI, Gen. Dynamics to market anti-tank weapon

Israel Aircraft Industries and the US company General Dynamics have agreed to market the IAI laser-guided rocket meant to destroy both helicopters and tanks, executives said yesterday.

The goal of both companies is to offer the Lahat weapon system to the US Army. Lahat, designed and developed by IAI's MBT division, is meant to be fired from both 105 mm and 120 mm tank guns. This makes the system suitable for a range of Western tanks, including the M-60 and the M1A1, as well as the Israeli Merkava.

The joint venture teams IAI, whose MBT division focuses on missiles and rockets such as the Barak anti-missile system for ships, and General Dynamics Ordnance Systems Division, based in Burlington, Vermont. The division was bought from Lockheed Martin last year.

General Dynamics is one of the world's leading tank manufacturers and produces the M1A1 as well as its successor, the M1A2, for the US Army.

Steve Rodan

ABB delegation to visit Israel

A delegation of Swiss Asea Brown Boveri (ABB), the world's leading electrical engineering firm, will visit Israel next month in an attempt to examine several possibilities to cooperate with local companies, Dina Berry, chief scientist of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said yesterday. Berry met with senior officials at ABB in Switzerland last week. They told her the company is interested in the fields of materials engineering, information technology, semi-conductors, environmental technology, energy, satellite communication and fiber-optics.

Berry also met with officials at Novartis, the world's third-biggest drugmaker, which agreed to cooperate with Israeli companies in the field of research and development.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Central bank survey shows Slowdown harms all business sectors

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

The economy is still in the throes of a slowdown, with an increasing number of companies being drawn into the downturn, according to the Bank of Israel's survey of 665 companies for the third quarter of the year.

The report, published yesterday, points to "a reduction in activity of companies in all sectors of the economy, including industry, commerce, construction, and hotels." The report adds that the effects on transportation and communications have not been as acute.

Large and medium-sized firms in the industrial sector said they are witnessing declining output and sales. Smaller firms, however, spoke of an increase in exports.

Reduced production levels were particularly noticeable in mining, quarrying, building materials, and wood products. These were put down to the ongoing slowdown in the metals, machinery, paper,

printing, and diamond businesses. Some 40 percent of those surveyed said orders were down.

The commerce sector reported falling sales. The central bank indicated that an increasing number of companies in this category put the blame on the world's economic problems rather than those at home.

Construction is well down, according to those in the building industry, and has been since the first quarter of 1996. Contractors are less dissatisfied with the pool of workers available, but increasingly disturbed by the lack of demand.

Inflation for the coming 12 months will total 6%, according to the report, but the central bank stressed this poll was taken prior to the major shifts in the shekel's exchange rate of recent weeks and also prior to this week's announcement that the key lending rate will increase 2% to 11.5% from November 1.

ING Barings returns to Israel

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Investment bank ING Barings, which six months ago pulled its business out of Israel, after having been a major foreign investor on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, has now decided to reopen its local operation, industry sources told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

ING Barings folded its operation here last February as part of a strategic pullout from a host of emerging markets, which included various countries in the Middle East and South America, as well as Greece, India, and Pakistan.

The sources estimated that the reopening of the Israeli desk is a direct outcome of specific requests of the bank's customers.

Analysts say the move is an indication that ING's investment arm believes it can do business in Israel even at a time when global markets are exceptionally volatile and Israeli interest rates are rising again.

This is further underscored by the fact that the bank announced at the beginning of the month a plan to cut 1,200, or some 12 percent, of its work force due to the emerging-markets crisis.

ING Barings, which started its activities here in 1995, achieved a leader's status among foreign investment houses specializing in Israel and was believed to be the largest foreign investor on the TASE together with UBS Securities.

Industry sources said that ING Barings is returning to the Israeli equity market by rehiring analyst Richard Gussow. After ING Barings ceased operating here, Gussow moved to Banco Santander, Spain's largest bank, which decided to close its local branch in Israel two weeks ago as part of its decision to cut 6% of its staff worldwide.

The activity of new desk is not expected to generate as much activity as previously, as investors are much more reluctant to invest in emerging markets.

In addition, many of ING's clients who invested here continued to do so through other investment houses. The sources noted that the closing of the local unit of the insolvent Peregrine Investments Holdings, which was the third largest investor in Israeli equities, didn't lead to a dramatic decline in foreign investors, as most of them moved to work with other brokers.

Despite speculation in the Hebrew press, the majority of foreign investment institutions have not reduced staff in their Israeli desks although the global financial industry is now launching its biggest job cuts in six years.

The most active overseas investment institutions to operate currently on the TASE include Goldman Sachs & Co., Lehman Brothers, Robert Fleming & Co., and UBS. The latter is the only foreign investment house to become a member of the TASE.

Goldman Sachs, which is the most prof-

itable American investment house, started operating here last year, and currently has two analysts here: Daniel Carasso, who covers the local bourse, and Elan Zivotsky, who specializes in hi-tech. Both are former employees of UBS.

Lehman Brothers, which has an office in Tel Aviv, covers the TASE from London through analyst Elise Horowitz. Merrill Lynch covers the local market from its London office, and has just recruited a new Israeli analyst, Tal Lital, who worked for local investment firm Zannex Securities.

British investment house Robert Fleming lost recently two of its Israeli analysts, Stephen Levey and Avrom Gilbert, but still holds Gad Haker. The bank has been reported to be looking to recruit another expert on local equities.

Warburg Dillon Read, the investment arm of UBS, has recently hired Jonathan Half as an Israeli hi-tech analyst and is believed to be looking to recruit new analysts.

Soros to shut \$1.5b. emerging market fund

NEW YORK (Reuters) -

International financier George Soros says he plans to close his \$1.5 billion emerging markets hedge fund, which has dropped about 31 percent in value so far this year, and that Nick Roditi, who runs two other Soros' funds, is temporarily leaving for medical reasons.

Soros, one of the world's richest men and an active philanthropist, told investors in an October 23 letter that the Quantum Emerging Growth fund, which bets on emerging markets and emerging growth companies, would be shut due to "corporate restructuring" and to simplify the job of chief investment strategist Stanley Druckenmiller in coordinating investments.

His flagship Quantum Fund, which has \$8.7 billion in assets and invests all over the world, would likely assume positions held by the emerging market fund. Investors in Quantum Emerging Growth would have a choice of either cash or a special class of Quantum Fund stock, he said.

The hedge fund's closure is not tied to its recent performance, but is part of an effort to consolidate management and trading of the various investments, a spokesman said. The fund rose 22.3% last year and 37.9% in 1996.

Hedge funds, investment vehicles catering to the very wealthy, have come under scrutiny the past few months after giant Long-Term Capital Management fund had to be rescued from near-collapse by a group of banks that coughed up more than \$3.5 billion.

Similarly, investments in emerging markets have soured for many financial institutions as an economic downturn in developing countries pummeled the prices of securities and currencies in Asia, Russia, and Latin America.

Soros told investors that Roditi, the outside manager with responsibility for the \$1.75 billion Quota Fund and Quasar International Fund, would take a leave of absence because of an undisclosed health issue.

The Quota fund fell 13.6% in value from the start of the year until October 22, after the recent turmoil in global markets. But its compound annual growth from its inception to the end of September was 48.03%, it said.

"Quota Fund is currently very liquid," Soros said in the letter. "We welcome redemptions, but we cannot guarantee shares will be available without premium after Nick Roditi's return. In the interim period, we shall employ the assets of the fund on an opportunistic basis."

Because Roditi was leaving temporarily, Soros also proposed merging the Quasar International Fund he managed into Quantum Industrial Holdings, a private equity investment vehicle.

Quasar's investment strategy was changed in 1997 to mirror Quantum Industrial's.

"Merging these two funds would simplify the administration of the strategic investment program by placing it in a single fund and assure a continuation of macro trading for Quasar International Fund shareholders," he said.

ENI denies building Egypt-Israel pipeline

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI) yesterday denied a *Globe* report that it has begun constructing a \$200 million pipeline to transport natural gas from Egypt to Israel.

ENI, one of the world's largest oil companies, is however presently laying a pipeline, which will take gas from central Egypt into the Sinai, according to a company spokeswoman.

Representatives of one of ENI's subdivisions, Agip, were recently in Israel to meet key government officials, according to a senior Jerusalem source. However, he added, they did not amount to negotiations in his opinion.

The newspaper report claimed Agip is building a pipeline on Egyptian territory "designated for transporting gas to Israel."

This was strongly rejected by the spokeswoman. "For a start our division does not build pipelines," she said from the ENI's Rome headquarters.

One Israeli industry source, however, confirmed ENI is building a pipeline with the gas

intended for Israel, but added it cannot admit to this until Cairo and Jerusalem give the project a green light.

Israel is presently searching for at least one foreign supplier of natural gas, with the Israel Electric Corporation pressing for the gas to be purchased from Egypt.

IEC is leading the negotiating team as it will be the principal consumer of the imported gas. IEC sources have expressed their consternation at National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's apparent refusal to negotiate with Egypt for political rather than economic reasons. Sharon confidantes deny he is stalling the purchase, suggesting

that the breakdown in negotiations began in Cairo.

Given the more than year-long failure of the official negotiations with Egypt, IEC is examining bids for the supply of gas from Russia, Norway, Nigeria, and Australia. Additionally, Israel is now prepared to purchase liquefied natural gas, delivered by sea, in addition to any possible supply routes via pipeline.

Industry sources confirmed to *The Jerusalem Post* earlier this week that negotiations have been ongoing throughout the last year "on a business basis" with foreign companies presently active in Egypt. These include ENI and Amoco.

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LAST C

RETZEE
SMALL CAPITALIZATION
TAX ISSUES 

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	LAST	CHANGE
Int'l Bond A	148	0
ILDC Bond C	179	0
ILDC Bond D	179	0
ILDC Bonds Bond 1	268	0
ILDC Insurance Bond 2	142.5	0
ILDC Insurance Bond 3	142.5	0
Ind Bd Warrant 3	289	0
Ind Bd Warrant 4	289	0
Ind Bd Warrant 5	289	0
Ind Bd Warrant 6	289	0
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Ind Bd Warrant 100	289	0

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ASTRONOMY

	LAST	CHANGE
AMEX		
Israel Paper Mills	30.75	0
Impal American Israel	3.5	-0.125
Israel Container Sys.	6.1875	0
Electro Chemical Ind.	0.6875	0
Multico	2.25	-0.125
Z Liquid	6.25	0
Z Liquid C/A	4.75	0
Isralized Technol.	1.375	0

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	0.75	2.8500

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12.5	+0.8125
12.875	0
9.6875	+0.1875

Israel Fund	11.4375	+0.0625
Israel Economic Corp	11.5	+0.25
Israel Corp	24.875	-0.0625
Israel Ltd	15.4375	-0.0625
Israel Ltd	6.5	-0.25
Israel Ltd	13.375	-0.5625
Israel Ltd	24.8125	-0.5625
Israel Ltd	9.125	+0.375
SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK		(DATE 27-07-88)

LONDON

Advanced	171.5	-1
Advanced Ltd	32.5	+0
Advanced Ltd	25.5	+0
A. Multimedia	4	+0
SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK		(DATE 27-07-88)

SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE
	45.8125	-0.8125
Inc.	40.9375	-0.375
Corp.	44.625	-1.125
	20.625	+1
Oil Labs	49.975	+0.25
Unifond Intero	17.4375	+0
Life	87.5	+0.825
Invest Publ	16.25	+0
	38.5	+2.3125
Unifond (HF)		
Trade	38.5	-0.75
Trade-Cut B	28.4375	+1.0625
Aluminum	55.675	+0.675
Aluminum	25.25	+0.25
Signal	35.9375	-0.5625
	75.675	+0.6875
	116.313	-1.125
Grande Hess	56.1675	-0.825
Grande	29	-0.3125
El Power	49	+0
Express	66.9375	-1.1675

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TASE rises led by banks

LAST	CHANGE
Bank Leumi	-0.1875
Bank Hapoalim	-0.0025
Bank Leumi	-0.0025
Bank Hapoalim	-0.0025
Bank Leumi	-0.0025
Bank Hapoalim	-0.0025
Bank Leumi	-0.0025
Bank Hapoalim	-0.0025
Bank Leumi	-0.0025
Bank Hapoalim	-0.0025

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

LAST	CHANGE
US Dollar	4.5904
British Pound	2.5212
Japanese Yen	166.35
Swiss Franc	1.4911
German Mark	3.3756
French Franc	6.5595
Italian Lira	2036.26
Spanish Peseta	166.35
Portuguese Escudo	200.48
Belgian Franc	6.5595
Dutch Guilder	3.3756
Austrian Schilling	13.7603
Swedish Krona	4.6633
Norwegian Krone	4.6633
Danish Krone	4.6633
Finland Mark	4.6633
Canadian Dollar	0.7111
Australian Dollar	0.6756
New Zealand Dollar	0.6756
South African Rand	6.5595
Israeli Shekel	1.0000

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

LAST	CHANGE
DJ Industrial	2895.04
DJ Transport	2785.04
DJ Utility	2895.04
DJ Chemical	2895.04
DJ Health	2895.04
DJ Technology	2895.04
DJ Finance	2895.04
DJ Real Estate	2895.04
DJ Energy	2895.04
DJ Materials	2895.04
DJ Consumer Goods	2895.04
DJ Healthcare	2895.04
DJ Telecommunications	2895.04
DJ Media	2895.04
DJ Entertainment	2895.04
DJ Food & Beverage	2895.04
DJ Retail	2895.04
DJ Services	2895.04
DJ Insurance	2895.04
DJ Banking	2895.04
DJ Finance	2895.04
DJ Real Estate	2895.04
DJ Energy	2895.04
DJ Materials	2895.04
DJ Consumer Goods	2895.04
DJ Healthcare	2895.04
DJ Telecommunications	2895.04
DJ Media	2895.04
DJ Entertainment	2895.04
DJ Food & Beverage	2895.04
DJ Retail	2895.04
DJ Services	2895.04
DJ Insurance	2895.04
DJ Banking	2895.04

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

LAST	CHANGE
FTSE 100	2895.04
Nikkei 225	2895.04
DAX	2895.04
CAC 40	2895.04
IBEX 35	2895.04
FTSE 100	2895.04
Nikkei 225	2895.04
DAX	2895.04
CAC 40	2895.04
IBEX 35	2895.04
FTSE 100	2895.04
Nikkei 225	2895.04
DAX	2895.04
CAC 40	2895.04
IBEX 35	2895.04
FTSE 100	2895.04
Nikkei 225	2895.04
DAX	2895.04
CAC 40	2895.04
IBEX 35	2895.04

DOLLAR CROSS-RATES (US)

LAST	CHANGE
British Pound	2.5212
Japanese Yen	166.35
Swiss Franc	1.4911
German Mark	3.3756
French Franc	6.5595
Italian Lira	2036.26
Spanish Peseta	166.35
Portuguese Escudo	200.48
Belgian Franc	6.5595
Dutch Guilder	3.3756
Austrian Schilling	13.7603
Swedish Krona	4.6633
Norwegian Krone	4.6633
Danish Krone	4.6633
Finland Mark	4.6633
Canadian Dollar	0.7111
Australian Dollar	0.6756
New Zealand Dollar	0.6756
South African Rand	6.5595
Israeli Shekel	1.0000

US COMMODITIES

LAST	CHANGE
Crude Oil	29.15
Gold	293.15
Silver	10.15
Copper	1.15
Platinum	1.15
Palladium	1.15
Nickel	1.15
Zinc	1.15
Lead	1.15
Aluminum	1.15
Steel	1.15
Iron Ore	1.15
Coal	1.15
Natural Gas	1.15
Heating Oil	1.15
Gasoline	1.15
Propane	1.15
Butane	1.15
Isobutane	1.15
Isopentane	1.15
Neopentane	1.15
Isobutylene	1.15
Isopentylene	1.15
Neopentylene	1.15

LONDON COMMODITIES

LAST	CHANGE
Crude Oil	29.15
Gold	293.15
Silver	10.15
Copper	1.15
Platinum	1.15
Palladium	1.15
Nickel	1.15
Zinc	1.15
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Gasoline	1.15
Propane	1.15
Butane	1.15
Isobutane	1.15
Isopentane	1.15
Neopentane	1.15
Isobutylene	1.15
Isopentylene	1.15
Neopentylene	1.15

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

LAST	CHANGE
Gold	293.15
Silver	10.15
Copper	1.15
Platinum	1.15
Palladium	1.15
Nickel	1.15
Zinc	1.15
Lead	1.15
Aluminum	1.15
Steel	1.15
Iron Ore	1.15
Coal	1.15
Natural Gas	1.15
Heating Oil	1.15
Gasoline	1.15
Propane	1.15
Butane	1.15
Isobutane	1.15
Isopentane	1.15
Neopentane	1.15
Isobutylene	1.15
Isopentylene	1.15
Neopentylene	1.15

LONDON METAL FIXES

LAST	CHANGE
Gold	293.15
Silver	10.15
Copper	1.15
Platinum	1.15
Palladium	1.15
Nickel	1.15
Zinc	1.15
Lead	1.15
Aluminum	1.15
Steel	1.15
Iron Ore	1.15
Coal	1.15
Natural Gas	1.15
Heating Oil	1.15
Gasoline	1.15
Propane	1.15
Butane	1.15
Isobutane	1.15
Isopentane	1.15
Neopentane	1.15
Isobutylene	1.15
Isopentylene	1.15
Neopentylene	1.15

Tel Aviv

Stocks rose yesterday, led by Bank Hapoalim and other large banks, as a strengthening shekel eased concerns borrowers will default on foreign-currency loans.

Bank Hapoalim, Israel's largest bank, surged 6.6 percent to NIS 7.80 and Bank Leumi, the No. 2 bank, gained 3.2% to NIS 5.52. That helped the Maof index of 25 largest companies to gain 1.77% to 286.27.

Shares of Israeli banks sank earlier this month after the shekel weakened 12%, sparking concern borrowers wouldn't be able to buy enough foreign currency to repay their bank debts.

On Monday, the Bank of Israel raised interest rates a higher-than-expected 2 percentage points to 11.5%, spurring a 1.4% shekel gain against the dollar. On Friday, the shekel gained 2.7% against the dollar in anticipation of the rate increase.

"Worry that banks would get hit by a shekel weakening was way over exaggerated," said Doron Tsar, head of research at Sahar Securities.

Israel Discount Bank, the No. 3 bank, rose 2.1% to NIS 3.45 and United Mizrahi Bank, the No. 4 bank, gained 2.5% to NIS 7.46.

Analysts said that Israeli banks are now trading at a discount to their book value.

The index also got a boost from Nice Systems, which rose 9.3% to 88.5 amid speculation of a buyout

bid from US-based rival Comverse Telecommunications Inc. The maker of call center monitoring equipment denied Comverse was attempting a takeover.

Shares of Nice plunged about 40% in September after it said that third-quarter revenues would be below expectations as it pulled a product line.

Asia

Asian stock markets closed mixed yesterday, with prices falling in Tokyo for a third consecutive session, but surging in Singapore on expectations of further interest rate cuts.

Tokyo's benchmark 225-stock Nikkei Stock Average moved in and out of negative territory before finally closing down 22.78 points, or 0.16 percent, at 13,820.68. On Monday, the average had lost 301.24 points, or 2.13%.

The market rose in early trading after Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi instructed his Cabinet to compile a package of economic stimulus measures by November 16. The new spending package, expected to total at least 10 trillion yen, will likely form the core of another supplementary budget, the third such appropriation measure so far this year.

But the gain proved short-lived amid uncertainty about details of the plan and concern it will tilt heavily toward public works



Maof 286.27 ▲ 1.77%
Dow Jones 8366 ▼ 0.8%
FTSE 5331.2 ▲ 1.91%
Nikkei 13820.68 ▼ 0.16%

spending instead of tax cuts. Meanwhile, the US dollar was quoted at 119.36 yen in late afternoon, up 0.34 yen from late Monday in Tokyo and also above its New York rate of 119.10 yen in late trading overnight.

Singapore stocks rose yesterday, pacing gains in Hong Kong and Australia, on expectations that more interest rate cuts will boost investment and ease companies' debt repayments.

Korean and Japanese stocks fell.

City Developments Ltd., Singapore's largest property developer, led as the Straits Times index rose 40.1 points, or 3.6 percent, to 1153.6, its highest close since May 29.

Hong Kong's benchmark index rose 1.5% and Australia's rose 0.8%. Korea's fell 3.5%.

Europe

UK stocks rose yesterday for a second day, led by oil companies British Petroleum Co. and Shell Transport & Trading Co. on optimism crude oil prices will climb, boosting their profits.

The strongest hurricane in a decade is nearing the Gulf of Mexico, threatening to disrupt oil output, while speculation grows that producers meeting in South Africa this week will move to cut production.

Benchmark Brent crude oil trading in London is up 53 cents in the past two days to \$13.29 a barrel.

"Oil stocks have been a bit oversold against the background of lower oil prices, and if there's a chance of prices rising, it's more likely to be now than Christmas," said Tony Hardy, who helps manage £1.8 billion at Church Commissioners, the investment arm of the Church of England.

He's "marginally overweight" in oil stocks including BP and Shell, and said he's holding on to the shares.

The FTSE 100 index rose 99.7 points, or 1.9 percent, to 5331.2, with four shares rising for every one that fell.

BP rose 29.5p to 867.5, the FTSE's biggest gainer in terms of index points, while Shell advanced 12.5p to 350.5. Together they pushed the index up 16.1 points.

Wall Street

Stocks fell Tuesday, giving back sizable gains and halting a nine-session winning streak by the small-company sector.

The Dow Jones industrial average failed to sustain an early advance for the third straight session and dropped 66.17 points - or by 0.8 percent - to 8,366.04 after shedding a 100-point gain.

Broader indicators held out longer than the Dow, but turned negative near the close. The Russell 2000 fell for the first time in 10 sessions after surging 20 percent from a 2 1/2 year low reached on Oct. 8. The Dow, which less than three weeks ago was sinking toward 7,400, has now lost about 167 points in three sessions after jumping nearly 600 points during a seven-session winning streak.

The market's big rebound has come amid optimism that falling interest rates at the Federal Reserve and in the bond market will offset the drag of economic instability abroad.

Profit-taking pressure has intensified, however, amid worries that the near-term outlook remains too shaky to justify paying even higher prices for stocks. Notably, the Conference Board research group reported that concerns about the global economy and President Bill Clinton's troubles helped push consumer confidence to its lowest level in nearly two years this month.

(Bloomberg, AP)

Mark gains on doubts Germany will cut rates

The dollar slipped against the mark amid speculation that Germany won't follow Italy's lead and cut interest rates.

Short-term rates among the 11 countries adopting Europe's single currency must converge by January. Italy, which had the highest rates among those nations, Monday cut its benchmark rate a percentage point to 4.0 percent. The comparable German and French rates, at 3.3%, are among the lowest of the group.

"If Germany cuts rates, you're just widening the gap between Italian and German rates," said Fernando Medina, senior currency trader at Banco Adriano, a New York-based bank.

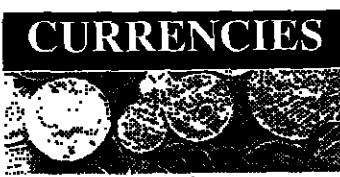
The dollar was at 1.6613 marks from 1.6635 late Monday in New York. It was little changed at 119.17 yen from 119.45.

Traders also said the dollar's 1.5% gain against the mark Monday was overdue and spurred in part by automatic buy orders rather than expectations about interest rates.

"I don't see Monday's upward move as a new trend for the dollar" against the mark, Medina said.

The dollar could rise against the yen in coming days amid persistent signs of weakness in Japan's economy, traders said.

The dollar's 12.5% decline against the Japanese currency this month was largely driven by investors paying back yen loans



Dollar 4.191 ▲ 0.05%
Basket 4.5904 ▼ 0.25%
Mark 2.5212 ▼ 0.66%
Sterling 6.9751 ▼ 1.03%

taken over the last several years, not a sudden improvement in Japan's economic outlook, traders and economists say.

In the latest sign of economic weakness, Japan said its unemployment rate remained at 4.3% in September, the highest on record. The jobless rate has risen or remained unchanged 14 of the past 15 months as business dries up at home and around Asia for many Japanese companies.

"Fundamentally, the yen is a weak currency," said Bipin Shah, of Manulife Financial in London.

"I can see the dollar gaining to 150 yen over a two-year period," Japan is stepping up efforts to revive its economy, though investors aren't convinced the extra measures will be enough. Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said the government will release its latest stimulus

package on November 16. The announcement followed a report that the government may add 1 trillion yen (\$8.4 billion) to the 4 trillion yen already proposed for public works projects in the extra budget. The funds will be part of Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's pledge to provide public works spending of more than 10 trillion yen by March 31.

Additional money "is nothing but a drop in the ocean," said Tetsuhisa Hayashi, a foreign exchange manager at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi in Tokyo. "The government hasn't spent smart, and the market doubts Japan's economic stimulus plans."

(Bloomberg)

Oil up as hurricane forces evacuations

Energy

Crude oil for December delivery rose 27 cents to \$14.50 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange yesterday in anticipation that Hurricane Mitch will disrupt oil production in Mexico. The Mexican national oil company, Pemex, Monday evacuated 4,280 workers, 80 percent of its workforce, from oil platforms in the Bay of Campeche, one of Mexico's largest production

areas. The Mexican government declared a hurricane warning for the entire Yucatan peninsula. Traders also are awaiting a report after trading on the size of US oil inventories last week from the American Petroleum Institute.

Others

Copper for December delivery fell as much as 0.85 cent, or 1.2 percent, to 71.00 cents a pound on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange.

COMMODITIES

Gold \$293.15 ▲ 0.95%
Crude Oil \$13.2 ▲ 0.16%
CRB 204.46 ▼ 0.3%

on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Prices are idling close to an 11-year low as rising warehouse stockpiles signal demand for the metals from builders and manufacturers is waning.

Inventories of copper stored in London Metal Exchange warehouses stand at 445,600 metric tons, the exchange reported yesterday, the highest level since May 1994 and 34% higher than the same period a year ago.

Coffee for December delivery was little changed at \$1.11 a pound, up 0.7 cent, on the

Coffee, Sugar & Cocoa Exchange in New York. While Hurricane Mitch, the worst Atlantic hurricane in a decade, could damage crops in Central America, the two largest coffee producers, Brazil and Colombia, are much further south and are unaffected. The hurricane is in the Caribbean basin and Guatemala and Mexico, both suppliers of the mild arabica coffee favored in the US, have issued hurricane warnings.

(Bloomberg)

US bonds little changed as Associates leads sales

US bonds were little changed as Associates Corp. of North America and others readied debt sales of more than \$6.5 billion to capture low borrowing costs at a time of improving demand.

Associates, part of the biggest independent US consumer finance company and the biggest borrower this week, yesterday more than doubled its planned bond sale to \$4.5 billion from \$2 billion.

"The issuance side of the equation is starting to show a pulse," reflecting renewed demand for corporate and other debt after a two-month lull, said Todd Barre, of Harris Bank in Chicago.

That, some analysts and investors said, could sap demand for Treasuries.

The 30-year Treasury bond rose 3/32, or 94 cents per \$1,000

bond, cutting its yield 1 basis point to 5.10 percent. Yields on two-year notes, the most actively traded government securities, fell 5 basis points to 4.13%.

On Monday, bonds rose for the first time in seven days after a report showing weaker-than-expected home sales suggested the economy is losing steam, and as the highest long-term yields in weeks lured buyers. Still, some traders said further gains may be limited, as investors turn their attention to the expected new debt sales.

"The supply no doubt is weighing on things," said Leonard Lovito, of Chase Asset Management.

Wall Street firms managing corporate bond sales often hedge against possible losses by selling government securities before the corporate issues are sold.

BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield
5.1 ▼ 0.01

After an 11-week lull, new issues are appearing more frequently as low interest rates and improving demand lure higher-rated companies - and even some with below-investment-grade, or junk, ratings - into the market.

Demand, which dried up in early August amid economic turmoil abroad and falling global

stock markets, improved after the Federal Reserve cut short-term US interest rates in mid-month for the second time in less than three weeks. Still, new bond sales - which reached about \$7.5 billion last week - aren't approaching the \$18.5 billion weekly average in the first seven months of the year.

The Associates sale will be the largest in the corporate market since early August, though Associates had to sweeten the terms of its sale by as much as 30 basis points to attract investors. The size of the issue also put pressure on existing finance company debt, adding to new a slew of bonds sold last week by Merrill Lynch and other borrowers. Even bonds of non-financial companies have felt the impact of the looming supply, investors said.

"It repriced the whole market," said Lovito. He said the average difference in yield, or spread, between corporates and Treasuries widened 2-5 basis points, with finance bonds widening even more.

Other expected borrowers include Saks, the department store operator, and Sotheby's Holdings, the auction house.

AmeriCredit Corp. and Sears, Roebuck and Co. are among companies expected to sell more than \$2 billion in asset-backed bonds in the days ahead.

Besides corporate borrowers, investors are also bracing for sales of \$16 billion of new two-year Treasury notes today and sales of an expected \$38 billion of new five-, 10-, and 30-year debt at the Treasury's quarterly debt sales next week.

(Bloomberg)

Referees given the red card; no love lost between Berkovic and Hammers

Another weekend at the office for the Premiership – and another lambasting for the game's officials. First out of the traps (the not-being-able-to-keep-them-shut-variety) was Wimbledon boss Joe Kinnear whose Saturday regular night relaxation at Walthamstow dog tracks will have been a little more tense than usual after his outburst against referee's assistant Peter Watson at the home game against Middlesbrough on Saturday.

Wimbledon came back with a late goal by Marcus Gayle to draw 2-2, but Kinnear was fuming about Middlesbrough's second goal, which he claimed was offside, and another Gayle effort which was disallowed.

Under the headline "No Jokin Ere" the Sunday, *People* tabloid quoted the Wimbledon manager as claiming that Watson was too thick to understand the offside rule. Kinnear has worked miracles at Wimbledon over the past eight years, with little money at his disposal, and he needs every point he can get. Of greater worry to him, and club owner Sam Hamman is the fact that just over 14,000 fans saw the game, a sizable pro-

portion of which had made the long journey from Tseide. You always know when Wimbledon are playing at home – when they score, the end where their fans celebrate is the half empty one.

Unfortunately for Kinnear, television replays showed he may well have had a point in both incidents he was complaining about. Kinnear, believing his team gets the rough end of decisions, has long advocated the introduction of a second official watching from a TV monitor for controversial incidents.

And so on to Sunday, when referee Mike Reed was obviously in symphony orchestra conductor mode, waving his yellow card like a baton 12 times during the Leeds-Chelsea match. Despite a historical coolness between the teams, going back to the Billy Bremner-Ron 'Chopper' Harris days of the late 1960s and early '70s, Sunday's match was hardly of Anzio Beach proportions. But Reed was subconsciously transported to those '60s days, presumably with folk singer Donovan's *They Call Me Mellow Yellow* on his mind as he filled his notebook.

By half-time the count was six with

BBC Radio commentator Mark Lawrenson telling listeners that he had met up with former Leeds defender Norman Hunter in the press box. "I said, Norman, with this ref, you'd have been shown a red card getting off the team bus."

Reed is head of the book-ings-per-game table having brandished 31 yellow cards in just five games.

The League Managers' Association is taking a serious look at refereeing.

The Association's chief John Barnwell said on Monday that referees should be more accountable for their decisions. "There should be a system so that refs are dropped from the panel if they have a run of poor games."

The only referee to have been punished in recent years was Dermot Gallagher who was banned for one game after failing to dismiss Arsenal defender Steve Bould in a game against Chelsea.

A somewhat surprising voice from

London Calling



Mark Rivlin

other corner has come from Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger who believes the officials' job has become too difficult. "The rules have become increasingly complicated and the pace of the game has increased so much," Wenger told the *Observer* newspaper.

One possible solution is the idea of professional refereeing, but Wenger is against this idea. "Full-time referees would have all week to worry about their mistakes, and blowing a whistle all day practicing is not going to make someone a better referee."

Berkovic saga continues

The next episode of the soap which has run scenes of gratuitous violence (John Hartson kicking Eyal Berkovic in the face during a training session), other problems at the workplace (Berkovic's bust-up with teammate John Moncur in a game at Chelsea last season), is now fea-

turing a cameo portrayal by the player's agent Pini Zehavi.

Yesterday's *Daily Mail* newspaper ran a banner headline across the back page "Thank you and goodbye," with reporter Ivan Speck quoting Zehavi's comments to an Israeli magazine. "We are going to say to West Ham 'Thank you and goodbye' and we are going forward to Manchester United or Liverpool."

Speck included the expected rebuttal from West Ham manager Harry Redknapp: "He (Zehavi) is talking absolute nonsense. It is wishful thinking to say that Manchester United or Liverpool want Eyal Berkovic."

A similar scenario was developing last season, but no other club came in with an offer for Berkovic. Zehavi is a shrewd agent, and Berkovic is a fine player, but it is interesting that neither have managed to win over the press in this country.

The Hartson incident had journalists digging up negative stuff on Berkovic from his playing days in Israel and *Daily Mirror* chief soccer writer Harry Harris has on more than one occasion written articles about unsettled Berkovic is at

West Ham. These days, the first lesson any footballer must learn is that PR skills are almost as important as playing skills.

And in that area, Berkovic could learn a lot from one Geoffrey Boycott.

Anybody with a passing interest in cricket knows that Boycott's incredible batting record for Yorkshire and England is only matched by his unpopularity among players and colleagues in the cricket world. And not surprisingly, the knives were well and truly out with former cricketing luminaries Ray Illingworth, Fred Trueman, Chris Old and David Gower aiming for the jugular.

And on a lighter note, the most interesting comment came from former England Test captain Tony Greig, now a commentator in Australia. Greig revealed the secret of Boycott's success with women. "I got changed with Boycs, and I can tell you, now how can I put it, I'm sure he won't be pleased with me saying it, but he is very well built."

For the first time in his career, Boycott was completely stumped and speechless as the camera held his face for a few seconds before it broke into a wry smile.

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England train new spin brigade

PERTH (AP) — England's spin doctor Peter Philpott took a beginner's bowling class yesterday while coach Graham Gooch spared some blushes by banning the media.

Philpott, an Australian drafted into the England camp to help them prepare to face longtime nemesis Shane Warne, planned to teach the squad's batsmen how to bowl leg-spin.

Wrist spin is the most difficult form of delivery to get right and amateurs are quickly exposed when they fail to release the ball properly.

Fearing any pictures or reports of players such as Alec Stewart and Mike Atherton struggling to unravel the mystique of the difficult bowling art, Gooch kept the media outside.

Warne, who has taken 85 wickets in 17 Ashes Tests, has not played since shoulder surgery last April but hopes to be fit for the first Test starting in Brisbane on November 20.

Philpott said England's knowledge of wrist spin needed expanding.

"They will be bowling them so they understand where the hand has got to be to deliver each ball," Philpott said. "Basically if you can do something a little, then you have got a much better chance of understanding it." Philpott said because English players were not exposed to much wrist spin, "they have developed mystiques that just aren't there. There's only a certain amount any legspinner can do, it's all logical, there's nothing mysterious," he added.

England play its first match against an Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI at Lilac Hill, near Perth, tomorrow.

Taylor postpones retirement plans

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australian captain Mark Taylor said on yesterday he had postponed plans to retire from Test cricket because of his team's historic series victory over Pakistan and his own stunning form.

Speaking on Australian radio after leading Australia to their first series win in Pakistan for 39 years, Taylor said he had no intention of stepping down.

"I've had a very good series myself," Taylor said. "If that keeps continuing, well I'll keep playing for Australia."

Taylor had considered quitting Test cricket two years ago when his batting slumped alarmingly. But he persevered and saved his career with a century in the first test of the 1997 Ashes series in England.

He again thought about retiring when he was replaced by Steve Waugh last season as captain of Australia's limited overs team.

Taylor had hinted he might stand down as Test skipper after the upcoming home series against England but, bolstered

by his team's success over Pakistan and his own stunning return to form, the 34-year-old opening batsman wants to continue.

"This series has been fantastic," Taylor said. "I've been a winning captain. I've been man of the series, made 500 runs, made a triple century in Test cricket... everything went right."

He was named Player of the Series against Pakistan after hitting an unbeaten 334 in the second Test at Peshawar to equal Sir Don Bradman's record for the highest score by an Australian in a Test innings.

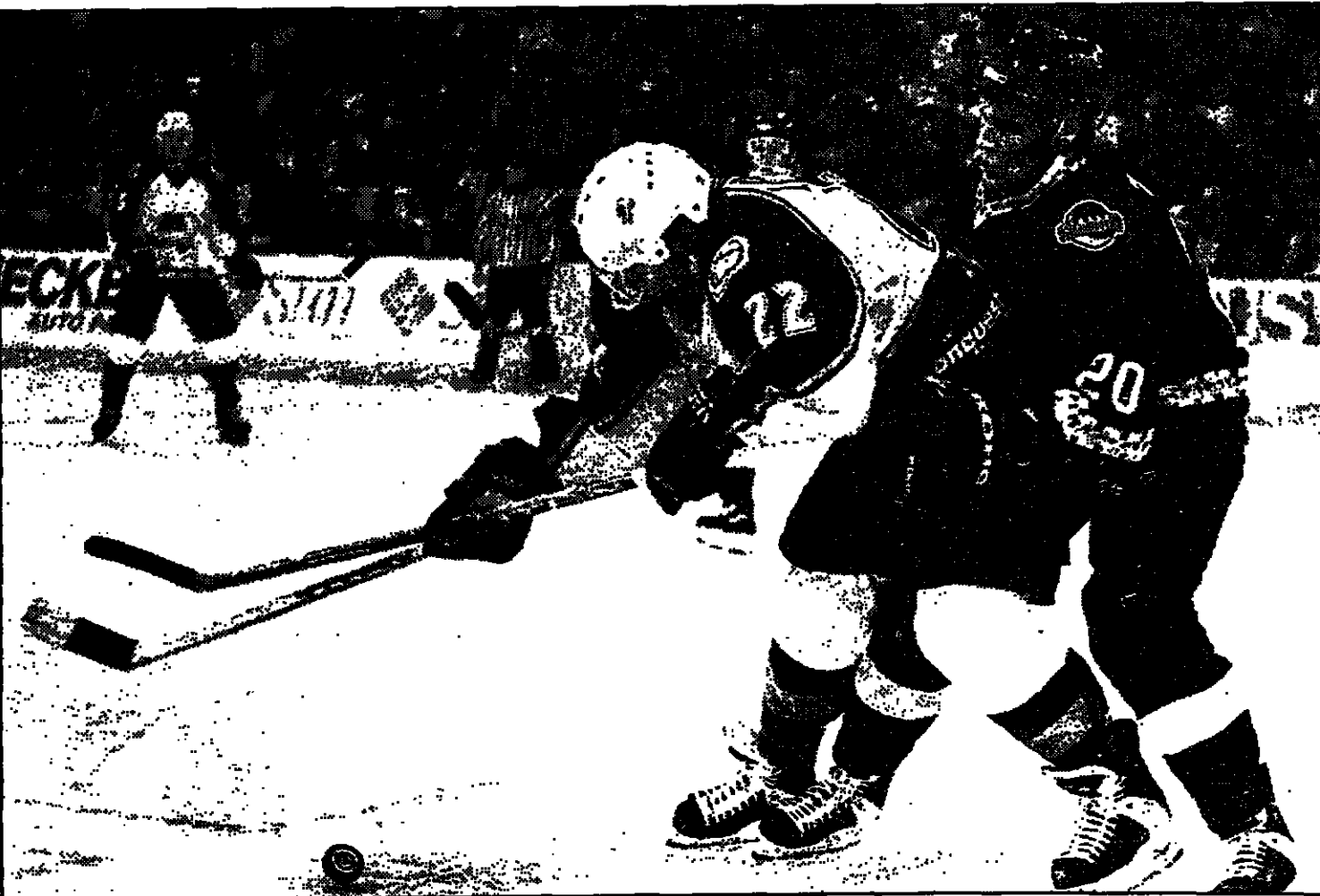
He also scored 92 in the second innings to finish 30 runs short of Englishman Graham Gooch's world record of 526 for the most runs in a match.

Gooch, who is currently in Australia as manager of the England team, was among the first to congratulate the Australians for their win over Pakistan.

"It's not an easy place to win," Gooch said.



REHEARSAL — England pace bowler Darren Gough bowls a delivery during a training session in Perth for the upcoming Ashes title.



PUSH COMES TO SHOVE — Phoenix Coyotes defenseman Jyrki Lumme (20) pushes Colorado wing Claude Lemieux from behind and knocks the puck away during first-period action. Phoenix won 5-1.

Skudra claims Leafs in first career shutout



TORONTO

(AP) — Robert Lang and Jaromir Jagr scored power-play goals and Peter Skudra

got his first career shutout as the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 2-0 Monday night.

Skudra, a last-minute starter after Tom Barrasso reinjured his groin during warmups, was sensational. He stopped 26 shots, including clutch saves on Mats Sundin, Sergei Berezin and Mike Johnson in the third period.

The shutout was Skudra's first in 21 NHL games.

At one point in the second period, it appeared that Skudra wouldn't be able to finish the game. Penguins defenseman Neil Wilkinson inadvertently bowled into Skudra while trying to check Toronto's Allyn McCauley, and the goalie fell and lay motionless on the ice for two minutes. He got up, however, and stayed in the game.

The Leafs were 0-for-8 on the power play and are now 4-for-45 on the season, third-worst in the

league.

Coyotes 5, Avalanche 1
Keith Tkachuk had two goals and an assist as visiting Phoenix beat Colorado for the second time this season.

Cliff Ronning and Rick Tocchet each had a goal and an assist for the Coyotes, who won for the first time in Denver since March 27, 1996.

Jimmy Waite made 19 saves in his first start of the year. He was denied his fourth career shutout when Keith Jones scored for Colorado at 16:39 of the third period. The Avalanche had two goals disallowed because of crease violations.

Pittsburgh 0-1-2
Toronto 0-0-0
First Period—None. Second Period—1. Pittsburgh, Lang 3 (Jagr, Hatcher), 223 (pp). Third Period—2. Pittsburgh, Jagr 2 (Ronning), 251 (pp). Shots on goal—Pittsburgh 9-5-18, Toronto 5-11-26. Goals—Pittsburgh: Skudra, Toronto: Joseph, A-15,726.

Phoenix 2-2-5
Colorado 0-0-1
First Period—1. Phoenix, Roenick 3 (Drake), 4:07. Second Period—2. Phoenix, Roenick 2 (Numminen, Tkachuk), 9:44 (pp). Second Period—3. Phoenix, Roenick 2 (Tkachuk, Lumme), 7:29 (pp). 4. Phoenix, Tocchet 2 (Ronning), 19:28. Third Period—5. Phoenix, Tkachuk 4 (Drake, Numminen), 5:46. 6. Colorado, Jones 2 (Forsberg, Hejduk), 18:38 (pp). Shots on goal—Phoenix 6-13-27, Colorado 6-5-20. Goals—Phoenix: Waite, Colorado: Roy, A-15,061.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	4	1	2	10	18	10
Pittsburgh	3	2	1	7	16	18
New Jersey	3	3	0	6	12	13
N.Y. Islanders	3	4	0	6	15	18
N.Y. Rangers	2	4	2	6	15	23

Northeast Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	5	2	1	11	26	21
Montreal	3	3	1	7	17	14
Ottawa	3	4	1	7	15	14
Buffalo	3	3	0	6	17	16
Rutland	2	3	1	5	14	15

Southwest Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	3	2	2	8	13	10
Tampa Bay	3	4	1	7	19	23
Florida	2	1	3	7	10	11
Carolina	2	2	3	7	17	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	5	2	0	10	21	12
Chicago	4	2	1	9	19	19
St. Louis	3	2	1	7	17	16
Nashville	1	5	1	3	15	22

Northwest Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	4	3	0	8	19	14
Edmonton	3	4	0	6	21	19
Calgary	2	4	1	5	19	25
Colorado	1	5	1	3	17	29

Pacific Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	5	1	1	11	19	11
Los Angeles	3	2	2	8	17	17
Phoenix	3	2	1	7	17	12
Anaheim	2	3	1	5	11	11
San Jose	0	4	2	2	10	18

S African wins nat'l golf open

By HEATHER CHAIT

South Africa's Barry Sundeelson won the 1998 Israel Amateur Open Golf Championships at Caesarea over the weekend, snatching the glory away from local player Kobi Hacham.

Caesarea Club champion Hacham was in the lead after the first day by one stroke, but Sundeelson stepped in with a 73 par on day two and a total of 151. After 54 holes and three days, Sundeelson had a lead of 10 strokes over fellow South African Ramon Rahme (223 to 233) while Hacham lagged on 236.

On the last day, Hacham returned to performance with a score of 74 which moved him into second place overall with 310 strokes, behind the new champion Sundeelson with his total of 300.

Rick Curtis of England finished third with 311 and sabra Avi Cohen was fourth with 315 strokes.

The men's division attracted 42 contestants from 11 countries.

Pans Cliteur of the Netherlands, who won in 1997, repeated as women's champion with 325 strokes. Swiss Beatrice DeCourten was second with 351 with her daughter Alix third on 369.

An inter-club competition (combined pairs stableford) with teams from Israel, the US, Switzerland, the Netherlands and South Africa was held during the championships with first place going to Israel's Norma Kaufman and Marion Fogel with 133 points.

The Swiss pair of Kurt Zurnsteg and Christena DeCourten were second with 127 points.

Karine Waysman and Jerry Glantz won the 36-hole better ball stableford competition for Caesarea club members with 88 points ahead of Ben Hoffman and David Edel's 82.

Concluding the four-day extravaganza was an 18-hole stableford better ball competition with honors going to Meir Iy and Hadassa Alon whose best back nine of 23 points made their 43 the winning score.

Dublin talks with Blackburn about £6.7m transfer

COVENTRY (Reuters) — Coventry City's top scorer Dion Dublin held transfer talks with Blackburn Rovers yesterday after the two clubs agreed to a £6.7 million transfer fee.

The versatile England international was given permission to meet Rovers manager Roy Hodgson by Coventry chairman Bryan Richardson. He confirmed Dublin has a clause in his £1m a year contract that allows him to speak to any club that makes an offer in excess of £5m for him.

"We are, and always have been, reluctant to sell Dion Dublin," said Richardson. "But we were duty-bound to give him permission to speak to Blackburn."

"They contacted us last week to ask if we were prepared to sell him, and we have been negotiating hard with them over the last few days."

"We received a written offer of £6.75m which we, in turn, have accepted in writing. The player is now discussing personal terms with Blackburn with a view to signing

for them. So the situation is now outside of our control. We consider a fee of almost seven million for a player who is 30 next birthday to be near enough full value."

News of Dublin's pending departure is certain to shock Sky Blues supporters as, after protracted negotiations, he signed a five-year contract during the summer worth £20,000 a week.

Coventry are third to bottom of the 20-club Premier League with eight points from 10 games.

With Michael Owen and Chris Sutton, Dublin was the Premiership's joint top scorer last season with 18 league goals.

It was the fourth year running he had topped Coventry's scoring charts and he broke Cyrille Regis' club record for the most goals scored by a Coventry player in the top flight.

Coventry already have a replacement lined up. "If Dion does leave it is our intention to bring in someone else in time for our game with Arsenal on Saturday," said Richardson.

Tyson trial on schedule

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mike Tyson's criminal record played a major role in a prosecutor's decision to proceed with charges against him.

The former heavyweight champion faces a December 1 trial on misdemeanor assault charges following an August 31 traffic accident in Gaithersburg, Maryland. A week and a half ago, Tyson

and his attorneys asked to postpone the trial for a year and eventually drop the charges against Tyson if he stayed out of trouble.

Legal experts say such handling of misdemeanor assault cases is common except when the accused has a criminal record. Tyson is on probation for a 1992 rape conviction in Indiana.

Basketball league finds a new partner

By OFER RONEN-ABELS

The National Basketball League yesterday announced a four-year sponsorship deal with Partner Communications worth over NIS 2 million per season. The League will be renamed the "Orange League," after the brand name of Israel's third cellular phone network which recently began operations.

"We have a partner, and this is a great step forward for the Israel Basketball Association," IBA Chairman Danny Kasten told a press conference yesterday. "This will bring a major facelift to the local game," he continued.

IBA marketing director Eitan Rob said that with the increased sponsorship money, the IBA will be able to support each of the league's 12 teams with an extra

NIS 500,000 per season. "With this deal, I am delighted to report that we have doubled our budget since the 1995 season," Rob said.

Orange take over from Coca Cola, who were the sponsors for the last five seasons. The league and State Cup will continue to be shown on cable's Channel 5, although the playoffs and final will be shown on Channel 1.

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Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

BSkyB short of control of Man Utd

LONDON (AP) — Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB said yesterday it has not yet won control of the majority of shares in Manchester United, the soccer club it hopes to purchase for £623 million (\$1 billion).

The satellite broadcasting company said it had received valid acceptance from shareholders representing 33.5 percent of the club's shares.

Combined with shares that BSkyB has been buying directly, the broadcaster has a total ownership just under 45%.

For a takeover, the company has to have more than 50% to gain a controlling stake in the club.

Shareholders have until next Tuesday to decide whether to accept the offer, although BSkyB can extend the deadline until early December if it chooses.

The government's Office of Fair Trading is expected to issue a report into the monopoly implications of the deal next week.

If it recommends further investigation from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the offer would remain on hold while the inquiry takes place.

The *Financial Times* reported Monday that Peter Mandelson, trade and industry secretary, was facing pressure from fellow cabinet members to refer the deal to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

'Little guys' spur Steelers past Chiefs



KANSAS CITY (AP) — Once again, it was the story of the unsung Steelers.

Oh, yes, Jerome Bettis and Kordell Stewart on offense and Levon Kirkland and

Carnell Lake on defense did their part as Pittsburgh beat Kansas City 20-13 Monday night. But Lance Brown, Fred McAfee, Hines Ward and Josh Miller did just as much.

Bettis rumbled for 119 yards on 33 carries and Stewart threw a 5-yard TD pass to Charles Johnson with 10:05 left in the game for the winning score.

But just as Pittsburgh seems to replace free agent defectors by turning hitherto little-known players into stars, on this night they won because they got contributions from the little guys.

It began on Kansas City's first possession.

After Miller dropped a punt dead on the Kansas City 1-yard-line, Brown blocked a punt that McAfee fell on for a touchdown.

"What more can you say about our kicking game," Steelers coach Bill Cowher said of Miller, who averaged 46 yards on six punts. "Our kicking game has made big plays time in and time out."

McAfee added 36 yards rushing on a late first-half drive that result-

ed in a field goal.

Ward, a running back-wide receiver-quarterback in college at Georgia, acted like the new "Slash" the Steelers hope he is by taking a handoff from Stewart and throwing back to him for 17 yards on a third-quarter drive that led to one of Norm Johnson's two field goals.

The win left Pittsburgh (5-2) in a tie with Jacksonville for first place in the AFC Central, while Kansas City (4-3) fell three games behind Denver and a game behind Oakland in the AFC West.

The Chiefs certainly didn't help themselves. "The outcome of the game was driven by our penalties and our turnovers," Chiefs coach Marty Schottenheimer said.

On their second possession, full-back Tony Richardson, wide open in the end zone, fell as Elvis Grbac threw what appeared to be a TD pass and the Chiefs had to settle for a 20-yard field goal by Pete Stoyanovich.

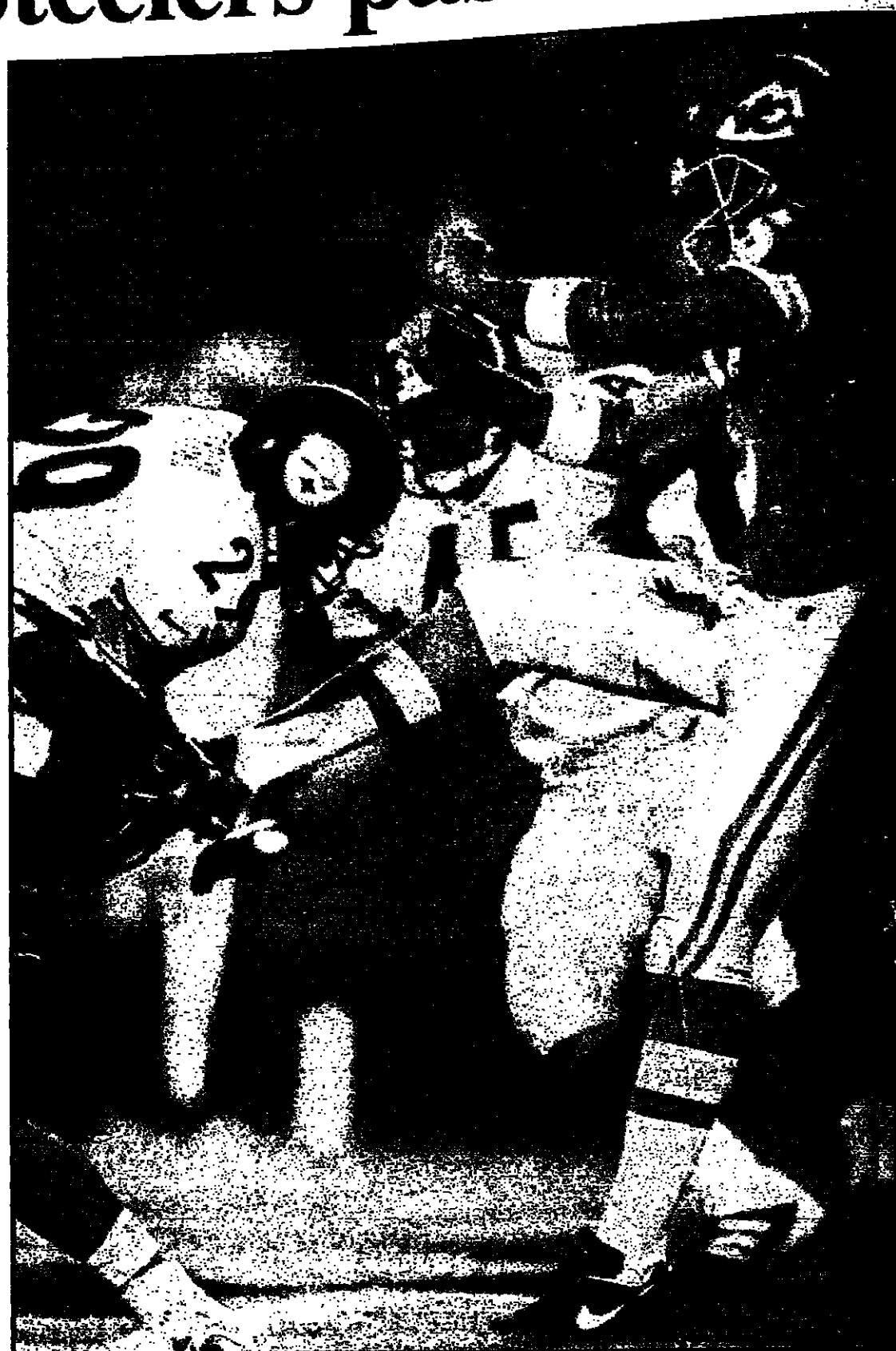
Then, on the opening kickoff of the second half, Ted Popson was called for holding on what would have been a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. And later, after the Steelers had gone ahead 20-13, what might have been a 43-yard TD pass from Grbac to Andre Rison hit the receiver on the helmet and bounced away.

The Chiefs got the ball back with a minute left, but Grbac fumbled on the first play when he was sacked Jason Gildon.

Pittsburgh 7 3 3 7-20
Kansas City 3 3 7 0-13
First Quarter: Pittsburgh recovered blocked punt in end zone (N.Johnson kick), 9:58. KC-PG Stoyanovich 20, 40. Second Quarter: KC-PG Stoyanovich 28, 12:36. Pittsburgh N.Johnson 34, 0:00. Third Quarter: Pittsburgh N.Johnson 22, 5:50. KC-PG Stoyanovich 28, 12:36. Fourth Quarter: Pittsburgh N.Johnson 10:05, A-79, 4:31.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE					
East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF
Miami	5	2	0	.714	114
Buffalo	4	3	0	.571	158
New England	4	3	0	.571	170
N.Y. Jets	4	3	0	.571	166
Indianapolis	1	6	0	.143	112
Central					
Jacksonville	5	2	0	.714	164
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	106
Tennessee	3	4	0	.429	144
Baltimore	2	5	0	.286	102
Cincinnati	2	5	0	.286	127
West					
Denver	7	0	0	1.000	240
Oakland	5	2	0	.714	115
Kansas City	4	3	0	.571	131
Seattle	4	3	0	.571	154
San Diego	3	5	0	.375	103

NATIONAL CONFERENCE					
East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF
Dallas	4	3	0	.571	174
Arizona	3	4	0	.429	108
N.Y. Giants	3	4	0	.429	146
Philadelphia	1	6	0	.143	79
Washington	0	7	0	.000	93
Central					
Minnesota	7	0	0	1.000	241
Green Bay	5	2	0	.714	183
Tampa Bay	3	4	0	.429	94
Chicago	3	5	0	.375	152
Detroit	2	5	0	.286	147
West					
San Francisco	6	1	0	.857	226
Atlanta	5	2	0	.714	175
New Orleans	4	3	0	.571	121
St. Louis	2	5	0	.286	139
Carolina	0	7	0	.000	128



BLOCKED — Chiefs' Louie Aguiar has his punt blocked in first-quarter action. The ball landed in the end zone where Steelers' Fred McAfee recovered it for a TD.

Taylor goes into drug rehab

NEW YORK (AP) — Retired Giants linebacker Lawrence Taylor has checked into a drug rehabilitation center, according to his lawyer.

"My understanding is that Lawrence checked himself in on Monday," attorney Thomas Melani said.

Taylor was arrested last week on crack-cocaine charges for the second time in three years, but he had been denying any involvement with drugs.

Taylor said goodbye to people close to him on Monday morning and expected to be at the clinic for 30 to 60 days.

The lawyer would not identify the facility other than to say it is in New Jersey. Taylor lives in the state.

Taylor's latest arrest was on October 19 in a St. Pete Beach, Florida, motel room where police said he tried to buy \$50 worth of crack cocaine from an undercover officer. According to police there were 15 crack pipes inside the room. Taylor insisted he was set up by police.

Two years ago, Taylor was arrested in Myrtle Beach, S.C., where police said he tried to buy \$100 worth of fake crack cocaine from undercover officer.

Taylor pleaded guilty last year to a Federal charge of filing a false income tax return by filing to report \$48,000 in income from a now-closed restaurant near Giants stadium.

The maximum penalty facing the former linebacker was three years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, but he was expected to receive probation because he cooperated with Federal prosecutors.

Taylor apparently was told by Federal prosecutors that his latest arrest could mean a violation of the plea agreement and if that did not receive immediate drug counseling he would likely face jail time.

Taylor has been in drug rehab several times, both while he was playing and after his retirement in 1993. His All-Pro career was marred by an NFL suspension for violating the league's drug abuse policy.

Speaking of compromise

Owners, players meet in secret, but no deal 'imminent'



NEW YORK (AP) — The opposing sides in the NBA lockout met for nine hours and finally started talking in detail about a compromise, making it the most productive negotiating session they've had to date.

"There's hope," Dikembe Mutombo of the Atlanta Hawks said late Monday.

One participant said the league backed off somewhat on its demand for a hard salary cap, meaning the sides have to be closer, at least in principle, to coming to an agreement on the main economic issues.

"The best thing is we have some sort of an agreement on basic principles," said Orlando center Danny Schayes, a member of the union's executive committee.

"Right now we're talking about a hybrid system. The first couple of years it would work one way, for another couple of years it would work another way if the first way didn't work. At least we're finding some common ground," Schayes said.

About 20 people from the union and 10 from the league worked through the afternoon and into the night at a luxury Manhattan hotel. The site was kept a secret to avoid the circus atmosphere that has surrounded past negotiating sessions.

Despite the stealthiness and the reluctance of most of the principals to discuss details, it was eminently clear that the sides were moving away from confrontation and toward compromise.

The league was asking to operate under a luxury tax system for the next three seasons, with a fallback system of a harder salary cap for the next three years. The union was asking for a tax system lasting two years, with the fallback system lasting another two years, Schayes said.

Still, the sides had not made any movement on whose contracts would be taxable and how high the tax would be. In earlier bargaining sessions, the union proposed a 50 percent tax on the amount of any annual salary exceeding \$18 million, and the owners proposed a tax of anywhere from 50-200% on any contract signed under the Larry Bird exception for more than \$2.6 million annually.

"The good news is at least we're talking about the same thing," Schayes said. "We're not close on the specifics, so it depends what you call progress. There's nothing that would signal any imminent announcements, but we've agreed to talk more."

The sides have agreed to meet throughout the week. Stern, deputy commissioner Russ Granik, Hunter and union president Patrick Ewing met for about three hours Saturday to conclude a contentious week that included arbitrator John Feerick's decision on owners' liability for guaranteed contracts and the union's militant meeting in Las Vegas.

The league did not immediately comment. Monday's talks — the seventh joint session — came in advance of a two-day meeting of the league's Board of Governors. It was Stern's best chance to make a bold move toward settling a dispute that has lasted nearly four months and has forced the league to cancel games for the first time in its history.

The full board is expected to meet today with dozens, perhaps hundreds, of players. Plans for such an assembly are incomplete, but both sides have talked as if they expected such a meeting to take place.

So far, only the first two weeks of the season have been scrapped.

Series foes, Williams and Brown, file for free agency

NEW YORK (AP) — While Mike Piazza decided to stay in New York, Bernie Williams took his first step toward leaving.

Five days after helping the New York Yankees win the World Series for the second time in three seasons, the AL batting champion filed for free agency Monday.

Williams, who turned 30 last month, wants a seven-year contract with a no-trade clause. The Yankees have been reluctant to give him a deal that long, but the marketplace may have changed after Piazza's record \$91 million, seven-year contract with the Mets, which was announced Monday.

"We now know what a premium player is worth when negotiating with one team," said Williams' agent, Scott Boras. "As what a premium player is worth when negotiating with multiple teams, that's yet to be defined."

Williams, cited by many as the glue that kept the Yankees clubhouse together, hit .339 last season with 26 homers and 97 RBIs despite missing five weeks with a sprained right knee.

"I think I'll get a chance to stay," Williams told the crowd at the

Yankees victory parade Friday.

Then he motioned toward Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, who was sitting nearby. "You've got to talk to this guy right here," he added.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman has said re-signing Williams was the team's top priority, but Boras said he wants to test the market first.

Piazza, traded to the Mets in May, will average \$13m a season under his contract, topping the \$12.5m average pitcher Pedro Martinez is getting from the Mets, six-year deal he agreed to with Boston last December.

"The Mets showed incredible commitment to me," Piazza said. "If I'm so fortunate as to go into the Hall of Fame someday, it definitely will be in a Mets uniform."

Williams' teammate Tim Lincecum also filed for free agency Monday, as did three players from the NL champion San Diego Padres: pitcher Kevin Brown and outfielders Steve Finley and John Vander Wal.

Brown also is represented by Boras, who spoke with Cashman and with San Diego general man-

ager Kevin Towers.

"They both expressed that their primary priorities were to re-sign the players," Boras said of the Yankees and Padres.

The Padres could sign one of their top free agent eligible players before the November 3 vote on a downtown ballpark.

It could be first baseman Wally Joyner, who has indicated that he would like to finish his career in San Diego. Although eligible, he has yet to file for free agency.

Also among the 28 players filing Monday were Baltimore second baseman Roberto Alomar — and teammates Jimmy Key and B.J. Surhoff — and Oakland outfielder Ricky Henderson.

Minnesota designated hitter Paul Molitor filed, but is expected to announce his retirement later this year.

Philadelphia exercised a \$3m option on pitcher Mark Leiter, but declined a \$6m option on off-injured outfielder Lenny Dykstra, who hasn't played since May 18, 1996, and a \$2.75m option on pitcher Mark Portugal. Dykstra gets a \$500,000 buyout and Portugal gets \$300,000.

Rotterdam site for Euro 2000 finals

ROTTERDAM (Reuters) — Euro 2000 opened its doors by choosing Rotterdam as the site for its final.

The idea of joint hosts, particularly the decision to award the 2002 World Cup finals to Japan and South Korea, has been questioned.

But Belgium and the Netherlands believe they can show it works.

D'Hooze scotched media suggestions that the Dutch and the Belgians may not be pulling in the same direction and that the Belgian interior ministry was more preoccupied with domestic problems.

Tournament director Alain Courtals believes the distances involved should be no cause for concern. France, which hosted this year's World Cup is over eight times the size of Belgium and the Netherlands combined and all venues are less than four hours from any other.

AIR CANADA

An important brunch in Portland?

Air Canada will get you there on time

Lv-TLV 01:25 a.m., Arr-Portland 10:20 a.m. same day

THE WEATHER

http://www.accuweather.com

ISRAEL

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Israel: Mixed sun and clouds north with spotty showers coast to mountains. Partly to mostly sunny south. Highs 25-32. Lows 8-20.

EGYPT

Eilat 32/20

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today High/Low	Thursday High/Low	Friday High/Low	Saturday High/Low
Alex	26/17	24/15	22/11	24/15
Amsterdam	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Antwerp	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Athens	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Berlin	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Birmingham	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Bombay	29/21	27/19	25/17	29/21
Boston	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Buenos Aires	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Calcutta	29/21	27/19	25/17	29/21
Chicago	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Frankfurt	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Hong Kong	29/21	27/19	25/17	29/21
Johannesburg	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
London	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Los Angeles	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Madrid	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Moscow	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Mumbai	29/21	27/19	25/17	29/21
New York	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Paris	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Rio de Janeiro	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Rome	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Sydney	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Tokyo	21/12	19/10	17/8	21/12
Toronto	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Vienna	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Washington	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5
Zurich	14/8	12/5	10/3	14/5